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THE
WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE
OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE
UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
The Hon. DANIEL S. LAMONT, Secretary of War,

BY

MAJ. GEORGE B. DAVIS, U. S. A.,
MR. LESLIE J. PERRY,
MR. JOSEPH W. KIRKLEY,

Board of Publication.

SERIES I—VOLUME XLVII—IN THREE PARTS.
PART II—CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

Section 2

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1895.



HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Goldsborough Road, two Miles from Neuse River, March 19, 1865.
Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the movements of my division for to-day as follows: Breaking camp at 8 a. m. I moved in rear of the First Division of this corps to this point, a distance of fifteen miles, where a portion of my command is now in position and intrenching themselves as well as they can under the circumstances. At this hour (12 midnight) I have but five regiments of my division up to this point, one brigade having been placed in position six miles to the rear, as is supposed by the order of the major-general commanding corps, the Sixty-sixth Illinois Volunteers of the Second Brigade being left on the Smithfield road. A portion only of my brigade trains have yet made the crossing of Falling Creek. The remainder, with train of headquarters military division, are still on the other side, and from the appearance of the swamp at present it would seem impossible to get them over for several hours. My pioneer corps is all engaged in assisting my train across, and the tool wagons of the brigades are still on the opposite side of the creek, which will prove a serious obstacle to the rapid construction of my works, but as soon as I can bring forward the corps of pioneers and furnish the tools the work will be prosecuted vigorously, and I think I can hold my position with the troops of my division now at hand. One of my staff officers just in reports it impossible to pass any more wagons over Falling Creek until a bridge is constructed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.
Major-General BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Slocum reports having met a very large force and thinks that Johnston's whole army is confronting him. The general commanding directs that you do not move farther forward at present, but that you get your trains well closed up, so that you may put them under guard and be ready to move up, disencumbered of wagons, to the support of the Left Wing at a moment's notice, and for that purpose you reconnoiter carefully all roads leading in this direction. The inclosed dispatch* is from General Sherman, who wishes you to send it by some careful, trustworthy person through to General Schofield, who is supposed to be advancing on Goldsborough, and is probably near Kinston.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FALLING CREEK, [March 19, 1865]—4.30 p. m.
Major-General BLAIR, Jr.:

DEAR GENERAL: General Sherman has concluded to concentrate here. Please mass your trains close where they are, and move up here

* See Sherman to Schofield, 5 p. m., p. 910.

with at least two divisions disencumbered. I think you might let Mower leave a small brigade, and bring up his other two and battery. Leave with the train with you as small a guard as will be effective against a brigade of cavalry and come with the balance. The officer you sent me to-day will know the route. Please start at 3 a. m. to-morrow.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Smith's Chapel, N. C., March 19, 1865—9.30 p. m.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: Information has just been received, through the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, that General Terry reached Faison's this afternoon on a train; that his command was back and would encamp about five miles below that point to-night. I have sent General Terry copies of General Howard's orders to me and have forwarded the dispatches for General Schofield by a detachment of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry through General Terry.

Very respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Smith's Chapel, N. C., March 19, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY:

COLONEL: I am directed by General Blair to send you the inclosed dispatch* for General Schofield, with the request that you will proceed with it if practicable to Kinston, where General Schofield now is. Nothing has been heard from General Terry as yet. Should anything be heard to-night I will inform you of it. The cannonading heard to-day was in front of the Fourteenth Corps. They were opposed by cavalry with four pieces of artillery. The fighting is not supposed to have been severe. Our left division will move to Everettsville to-morrow and the two divisions encamped here to Mount Olive. The dispatch may be an important one and we have no cavalry with which to send it, so that the general is obliged to call on you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Smith's Chapel, N. C., March 19, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY:

SIR: The inclosed dispatch† has just been received from army headquarters, and General Blair has been directed by General Sherman to send it to General Schofield by some "careful, trustworthy person." Either this dispatch or the one sent you for General S. this evening is evidently of great importance. This one is probably a cipher dispatch.

* See Sherman to Schofield, 2 p. m., p. 910.

† See Sherman to Schofield, 5 p. m., p. 910.

In view of the probable importance of the dispatches, the major-general commanding orders that you send at as early an hour as practicable to-morrow a detachment of your command to Kinston and communicate with General Schofield at that point or wherever he may be, delivering these dispatches. We have received orders to move to Falling Creek at 3 a. m. to-morrow to the support of General Slocum, who reports that he has met a large force, and thinks the whole of Johnston's army is confronting him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 70. } *Smith's Chapel, N. C., March 19, 1865.*

The orders for to-morrow are as follows: Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will leave with his train his smallest brigade and will move forward with the rest of his command on the most direct route to Falling Creek, at 3 a. m., reporting to Major-General Howard at that point. The commanding generals of the Third and Fourth Divisions will leave with their trains one regiment each as guard, to be under command of the senior officer, and the trains will remain in their present position until further orders. Major-General Mower's train will remain in its present position until further orders. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move forward on the road to Falling Creek at 3 a. m. The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will follow the Fourth Division. Headquarters and regimental train and ambulances, with ten ordnance wagons, will move with each division. The trains of the Third and Fourth Divisions will be parked close together, and the commanding officers of the regiments left as guard will take all necessary measures for its protection. Foragers will be kept with the command to-morrow, and will, under no circumstances, be permitted to leave the line of march.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 63. } *Chapel's Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.*

This command will move forward at 3.30 a. m. to-morrow in rear of Fourth Division. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will have the advance. The Fifteenth Ohio Battery, Lieutenant Bailey commanding, will follow the Second Brigade. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will follow the battery. Troops will move on the right of the road. Trains in usual order. No foragers will be permitted to leave the command to-morrow.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field [March 19, 1865]—1.30 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I am convinced that the enemy are in strong force in my front. Prisoners report Johnston, Hardee, Hoke, and others present.

They say their troops are just coming up. I shall strengthen my position and feel of their lines, but I hope you will come up on their left rear in strong force.

Yours, truly,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
March 19, 1865—2 p. m.

General SHERMAN, or
General LOGAN:

I have met [the enemy] in strong force on the road from Bentonville to Cox's Bridge. It is reported by prisoners that Johnston and Hardee are here. I think a portion of the Right Wing should be brought forward at once.

Yours, &c.,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Falling Creek Church, March 19, 1865—2 p. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: Howard, with one division, is now at this point, which is just three miles south of Cox's Bridge, and ten from Goldsborough. A scout is just in from Schofield, who will leave Kinston for Goldsborough to-day or to-morrow. I send him a courier to march straight for Goldsborough. Howard's four divisions are strung out, but he will push them through to-night. We occupy a position dangerous to the enemy, if he thinks he is in front of the whole army. You may strengthen your position, but feel the enemy all night. If he is there at daylight we will move straight on Cox's Bridge, and then turn toward you. I think you will find them gone in the morning. Howard has sent a regiment to Cox's Bridge. It has not reported. He has the bridge across Falling Creek, two miles east of this, toward Goldsborough. He has also some mounted men at Goldsborough, where they find a little outpost occupied by the enemy. Blair is about five miles south of this with the trains. I will order Kilpatrick to remain with you. Get up your trains between your camp and Lee's Store, and keep the enemy busy till we can get up the four divisions of the Fifteenth Corps. If you hear firing to the front not explained by your own acts you must assault and turn the enemy, for it will not do to let him fight us separately.

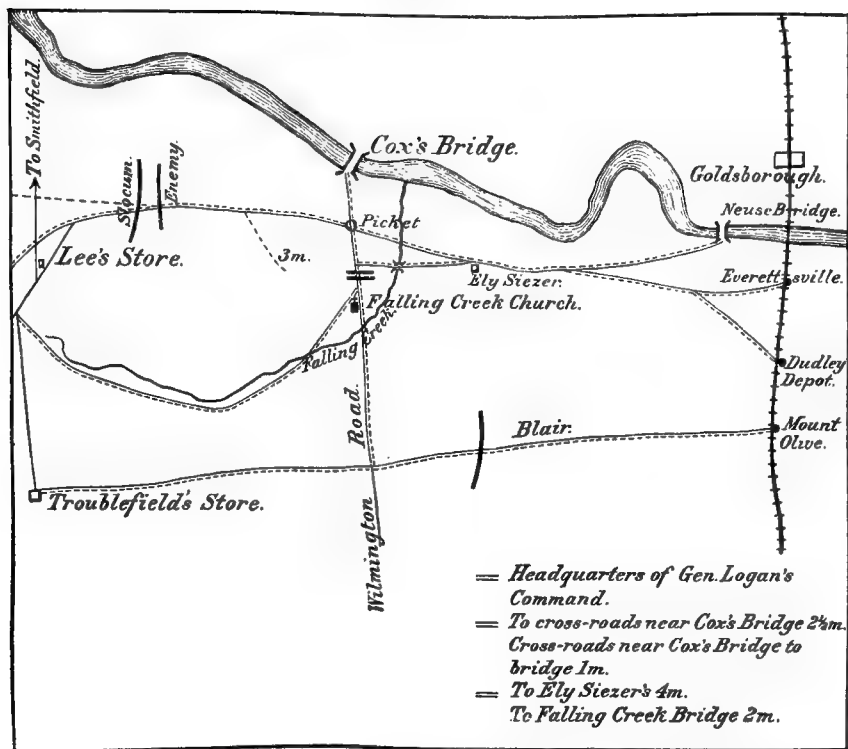
Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

P. S.—Your note of 2 p. m. is just received. Howard's regiment drove the picket from the cross-roads, one mile this side of Cox's Bridge. That will disturb the forces to your front. Howard can better help from this quarter than by returning by Lee's Store.

S.

[Inclosure.]



HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
March 19, 1865.

General SLOCUM,
Near Bentonville:

GENERAL: Call up Geary and Baird, leaving a brigade to each train. All of the Right Wing will move at moonrise toward Bentonville. Fortify and hold your position to the last, certain that all the army is coming to you as fast as possible.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

We have the bridge at Goldsborough and the cross-roads at Cox's. If you find the enemy gone at daylight, follow up, as he will turn on Howard.

SHERMAN.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Three Miles Southeast of Bentonville, N. C.,
March 19, 1865—8 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN,
General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: I have positive information that General Johnston is here in person with a heavy force. I feel confident of holding my position, but I deem it of the greatest importance that the Right Wing come up

during the night to my assistance. I would request that all the ammunition and empty ambulances and wagons that can be spared from the Right Wing be sent to me. From prisoners I learn that the corps and commands of Hardee, Stewart, Lee, Cheatham, Hill, and Hoke are here. I desire both infantry and artillery ammunition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Brevet Major-General DAVIS,

Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you spend the entire night in intrenching and in making your present position as strong as possible. You may expect the Right Wing up in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 19, 1865.

[Bvt. Maj. Gen. JEF. C. DAVIS:]

GENERAL: I attacked the enemy with Buell's brigade and half of Hobart's, but failed to drive the enemy. The same result attended the attack on the right by Miles' brigade. The enemy is strong in men and artillery. A prisoner, a New York man, whom I have sent to you, says Hardee, Hoke, Lee's corps, and a great deal of artillery are in our front. I shall hold my present position until further orders from you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. CARLIN,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—My loss is considerable, but not definitely known.

W. P. C.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On the Field, March 19, 1865—4.30 p. m.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Slocum for information. The enemy is beyond doubt in our front in strong force, and intends to give a general engagement.

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,

Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you spend the entire night in intrenching and in making your present position as

strong as possible. You may expect the Right Wing up in the morning. General Slocum wishes you to intrench to the left, as far as possible, and have your reserves intrench themselves.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
March 19, 1865. (Received 12.30 a. m. 20th.)

General GEARY,
At the Train:

Rush your train. Leave one brigade and move with two others to General Slocum to-night.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Near the Smithfield Road, March 19, 1865.

General J. W. GEARY:

GENERAL: The general commanding the corps wishes you to keep as much as possible to the right, as we are marching on the road to the right and he does not wish you to strike our road, as it is in very bad condition and exposed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

The last order to me was to send you to Everettsville, and the orderly says you have been ordered by General Slocum to Cox's Bridge. If so, keep south as far as practicable to get there.

A. S. W.,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Canaan Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.
(Received midnight.)

Lieut. Col. H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Twentieth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I am encamping at this point, which is on the Goldsborough new road, three miles from Newton Grove Post-Office. I was delayed four hours in reaching here by the Fifteenth Corps, the rear of which did not pass this point until 6 p. m. My position here is excellent, enabling me to cover the trains securely. I send this by Captain Schilling, of my staff, who will give all explanations called for and will bring back any instructions you may wish to send.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. W. GEARY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Brevet Major-General GEARY:

Send up to-night two brigades. We have in front the whole of Johnston's command, and have had very serious fighting all day. Send your ambulances, putting all sick in wagons. I have consulted General Slocum. If you can communicate with Fifteenth Corps, state our condition. We expect further attacks in morning. All ammunition (artillery and infantry) should be sent up.

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL
FIELD ORDERS, }
No. —

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Canaan Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.

The First and Third Brigades will move at once as rapidly as possible to re-enforce the other divisions of the corps. Their tool wagons will accompany them.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAV. COMMAND, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nine Miles from Bentonville, N. C., March 19, 1865—10 a. m.

Major-General SHERMAN,

Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I am marching on the left, and at the head of the Twentieth Army Corps, which is delayed in its march by bad roads. I am getting plenty of forage, having no trouble. The enemy's cavalry has made several dashes on my flank during the march this morning. Allen's division of cavalry and six regiments of infantry encamped last night about seven miles from Mingo Creek, on the Smithfield road. Whenever I have faced in direction of Raleigh, or on roads leading toward Smithfield, I have found the enemy, and yet he retires without severe skirmishing. All the roads in direction of Raleigh and Smithfield I find strongly picketed. Lieutenant Potter, of my staff, made his escape from the enemy and joined me last night. He reports that we are expected in direction of Raleigh, and that every preparation is being made to meet us about ten miles this side—near Squire Johnson's. I shall march parallel with the Twentieth Army Corps and join you at the earliest possible moment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Falling Creek Church, March 19, 1865—5 p. m.

General KILPATRICK,

Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your report of to-day is received. General Slocum thinks the whole rebel army is to his front. I cannot think Johnston

would fight us with the Neuse to his rear. You may remain with General Slocum until further orders, or until the two wings come together.

If that force remains in General Slocum's front to-morrow I will move straight on its rear.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
In the Field, March 19, 1865.

General W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: The enemy in heavy force, and commanded by General Johnston in person, attacked the Fourteenth Corps to-day, captured three guns, and gained a temporary success; but our lines were finally re-established. The Twentieth Corps and my cavalry came upon the field, and took up strong positions. From 2 o'clock until dark the enemy made every effort to break our center, but he has failed in each attempt, and certainly with great loss. The information I sent you this morning was correct at the time it was received, but during yesterday afternoon and last evening he made forced marches, and is now in our front, and General Johnston is in command. He addressed his troops this morning, saying that he had 40,000 men, and that our army must and should be stopped here; that we were marching upon four roads; that he intended to fall upon one column after another, and dispose of them in detail. The fighting to-day has been splendid, and you can rely on your army in everything. I never witnessed more determined attacks than were made by the enemy to-day upon our center. Six were made one after another in rapid succession on the same men at the same point, General Robinson commanding, and yet I did not see a single soldier leave the line of battle. If you attack the enemy in flank and rear as you propose in your communication to me, Johnston's army, if it remains, is lost. Generals Slocum, Davis, Williams, and others, for several hours to-day anxiously listened, and only waited for the first sound of battle from the Army of the Tennessee, when they would have marched without halting over every opposition in front. I only hope to God that Johnston may remain for your attack, and you will achieve a triumph over the enemy such as no general can boast. You can expect everything that is brave and daring from my cavalry. The men have been to-day supplied with ammunition. We have plenty of forage, eight days' rations, are in good spirits, and shall anxiously watch for the morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

KINSTON, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

The boats have at last arrived with supplies, and I shall push forward in the morning toward Goldsborough. I will go direct to Goldsborough if my information indicates that I can take that place. If not, I will put down my pontoon bridge at White Hall and communicate with you from that place.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Ten Miles southwest of Goldsborough,
Sunday, March 19, 1865—2 p. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Kinston:

To-night my Left Wing will be at Cox's Bridge and Right Wing within ten miles of Goldsborough. To-morrow we will cross the Neuse River at Cox's Bridge and near Goldsborough, to prevent the enemy reoccupying Goldsborough in force. The scout (Pike) has arrived with your dispatch of 17th. Continue to extend the railroad as fast as possible, and I expect you to move toward Goldsborough even if it be unnecessary, as I don't want to lose men in a direct attack when it can be avoided. Don't depend altogether on your depot, but collect forage and provisions of the people. Tell Generals Easton and Beckwith to estimate for 100,000 men. I must give my men and animals some rest. We whipped Hardee easily about Averagesborough. All retreated on Smithfield and Raleigh.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 19, 1865—5 p. m.

General SCHOFIELD:

Since making my dispatch of to-day, General Slocum reports the enemy in force between him and Cox's Bridge; thinks it is the main army of the enemy. I can hardly suppose the enemy will attempt to fight us this side the Neuse, but will direct all my columns on Cox's Bridge to-morrow. You must secure Goldsborough and fortify.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL
 FIELD ORDERS, }
 No. 7.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, Kinston, N. C.,
March 19, 1865.

* * * * *

II. The army will march for Goldsborough at 6 a. m. to-morrow, taking the river road on the north side of the river. General Cox will take the advance. The men will carry four days' rations and seventy rounds of ammunition. All wagons, except those absolutely necessary for baggage, and twenty-five teams for the pontoon train, will be loaded with subsistence stores and follow the troops. General Couch will cross his artillery and wagons on the pontoon bridge early in the morning (using the trestle bridge for the infantry), and as soon as the wagons are across, the pontoon bridge will be taken up and move with the rear of the column. The chief quartermaster will provide twenty-five teams to haul the pontoon train.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
 } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
 } *New Berne, N. C., March 19, 1865.*

I. Lieut. Col. J. F. Boyd, chief quartermaster Twenty-third Army Corps, is hereby announced as acting chief quartermaster of the army in the field.

II. Maj. Frank E. Wolcott, judge-advocate, Army of the Ohio, is hereby announced as acting judge-advocate, Department of North Carolina, Army of the Ohio.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
 } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
 } *New Berne, N. C., March 19, 1865.*

I. Brig. Gen. H. W. Birge will send to Morehead City by rail the Twenty-second Iowa Infantry and One hundred and thirty-first New York Infantry, to report for orders to Bvt. Brig. Gen. L. C. Easton, chief quartermaster, Military Division of the Mississippi. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

* * * * *

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
 } *Kinston, N. C., March 19, 1865.*

I. The command will march for Goldsborough at 6 a. m. to-morrow, taking the river road on the north bank of the river. General Ruger's division will take the advance of the infantry column, followed by General Carter's division. General Greene's division will bring up the rear. The men will carry four days' rations and seventy rounds of ammunition. All wagons, except those absolutely necessary for baggage, will be loaded with subsistence stores and follow the troops. The cavalry under command of Colonel Savage will move in advance of the infantry column, covering the right flank and scouting well to the front, and will keep up through communications with the head of the infantry column, giving such information in regard to the country and enemy as may be gathered that would be of value to the commanding general at the head of the column.

II. The cavalry force on the south side of the river will cross at day-break to-morrow morning. Captain Graham will report with his company to Brigadier-General Harland, commanding post of Kinston, for duty in this vicinity. The remainder will report to Colonel Savage, commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Kinston, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Comdg. Second and Third Divs., Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to ask you to select four or five good men from your cavalry, who know something of the country and send them down the Neuse road with instructions to get any tidings of the steamers expected up from New Berne with supplies.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Kinston, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Comdg. Second and Third Divs., Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to say that Captain Graham's company of cavalry will remain here, and he desires all the cavalry on the other side of the river (your side) to cross over to this side early in the morning and report to Colonel Savage.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. SECOND AND THIRD DIVS., 23D ARMY CORPS,
March 19, 1865.

General McLEAN:-

GENERAL: The command will march in the a. m. in the following order, viz: First, the artillery and wagons of General Reilly's division over the pontoon bridge at 6 o'clock; second, the artillery and wagons of General McLean's division over the pontoon bridge; third, General Reilly's division at 8 o'clock over the trestle bridge; fourth, General McLean's division over the trestle bridge. The artillery and wagons after crossing will be parked in the first good ground on the right of the road and await orders from the proper officers.

By command of Major-General Couch:

C. A. CILLEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Faison's Depot, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to your orders, I left the bridge over the Northeast Branch of the Cape Fear River, with my command, on Thursday morning, the 16th instant, expecting to reach this place to-night, but our march was delayed by the extremely bad condition of the roads and the great difficulty I experienced in passing some of the creeks. The troops are now nine miles from here, on the Kenansville road. I came here in person for the purpose of reporting to you, but finding that you are not here I shall send this dispatch and wait till morning for an answer. Having learned

that the army, or a part of it, is at Mount Olive, I propose to march toward that place to-morrow, unless I should in the meantime receive contrary instructions. I have found on the railroad two engines in tolerable repair, and one which can be repaired; also four freight cars which can be used at once, and some ten or twelve others which could be made serviceable in five or six days, provided workmen could be provided. The machine-shop at Magnolia is in good condition. The superintendent of the road, Col. S. L. Fremont, informs me that as far as he is aware, the road remains uninjured between the Northeast Branch and the Neuse. I propose to send all the available cars down to Northeast, and to request General Hawley, who now commands at Wilmington, to send up stores (bread, coffee, sugar, and oats) by steamers to that point. My troops have rations for six days from to-morrow morning. I have forage for four days.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Magnolia Station, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Col. S. L. FREMONT,

Chief Engineer and Supt. Wilmington and Weldon R. R. Co.:

COLONEL: The Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, with its rolling-stock, repair shops and appurtenances, has this day been taken possession by the Government of the United States for military purposes. No property of any kind or description will be removed from the road, its depots, &c., except that which is strictly the private property of its employés. The provisions, medicines, and other supplies belonging to the railroad company, will, until further orders, be used under your direction for the benefit of its employés.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAGNOLIA, N. C., *March 19, 1865—12.35 p. m.*

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. AMES:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you march the column under your command beyond Kenansville and as near to Faison's Depot as possible to-night, making a march of about twenty miles to-day. The general will go from here to Faison's, and wishes you to send a staff officer on there with some cavalry to report the place of your halt for the night, &c. Artillery firing has been heard in a northwest direction from here last night and this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL
FIELD ORDERS, }
No. 66.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND
ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 20, 1865.

The following operations of this command will take place to-morrow. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, will

extend his lines to the left somewhat, so as to get a good left flank, and by demonstrating against the enemy's lines annoy him as much as possible. Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, forming on the right of the Fifteenth Army Corps, will work against the left flank or rear of the enemy's lines at any point between his position and the river. Each corps commander will organize a train of wagons now empty from the ordnance and supply trains to proceed to Kinston and bring forward hard bread, sugar, coffee, boots, and shoes. The trains will move via Everetttsville or Mount Olive. As the route is well protected by our forces a small guard will be sufficient.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, March 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general wishes you to have a vigilant watch kept on the enemy's lines, so that we may be advised the moment the enemy falls back from his lines, should he do so.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Blair.)

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bentonville Cross-Roads, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that my command, being ready to move at 5 a. m., as directed in orders received from corps headquarters last night, moved out not long afterward, taking the first left-hand road as instructed. I had not continued long on this road before my head of column met with the outpost of the enemy. The skirmishing was at times considerable, continuing to increase as I approached my present position. Here the enemy has been developed in my front, well fortified, his line running very nearly parallel to the road on which we marched. My loss is about forty. I will forward a list of casualties as soon as received from brigade commanders, and I will forward a more full report of the part taken by my division at the earliest possible date.* My line, which connects on the right with General Corse, covers the road which leads to Smithfield, my left being refused so as to extend a considerable distance to the left of the road on which I have been marching to-day. My headquarters are at the cross-roads just in rear of my lines.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

* See Part I, p. 246.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 20, 1865.

[General C. R. Woods:]

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to strengthen your position during the night, keeping a strong skirmish line well advanced. In the morning he desires you to push forward your skirmishers, more fully to develop the position of the enemy. You will please park your train to the left of the main road and at a sufficient distance from our lines to insure their safety in the event of an engagement.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brigadier-General Corse.)

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
March 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL, *Assistant Adjutant-General*:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I have brought the train forward and camped it on Buck Creek with the train of General Mower's division, Seventeenth Army Corps. Both trains are guarded by a brigade of General Mower's division. I have moved the troops of this brigade two miles farther to the front. I am only waiting for Colonel Carpenter's supply wagons to come up to move forward. I shall go five miles farther to-night.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. B. WOODS,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bennettsville [Bentonville], N. C., March 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that at 11 p. m. last night I received orders to march my division, via Blackman Lee's Store, to the place where the Left Wing was confronting the enemy, and report for service to Major-General Slocum. The command arrived at sunrise, having marched fourteen miles, or eighteen after sunset of the previous day, and was assigned a reserve position. At about 11 a. m. I received orders from General Slocum to push a strong line of skirmishers, well supported, to the right of his lines, to find the enemy and engage him. The line, composed of two regiments, was deployed, and moved in the direction indicated, and after about three hours maneuvering in swamps, the lines of the enemy were found, but retired at a very sharp angle from the direction he was looked for, when my lines were at once re-enforced by a brigade, were connected with the First Division, Fifteenth Corps, on the right, the left being much in advance of the Fourteenth Corps, and the enemy's pickets were at once assailed and driven to the main line, with a loss to us of 5 killed and 9 wounded. My pickets were here intrenched in close proximity to the lines of the enemy, and remained in this position till he withdrew.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following as the operations of this command during the day: At 5 a. m. the Second Brigade, Col. C. R. Wever commanding, with one section of Battery B, First Michigan Artillery, made a demonstration upon the enemy near Cox's Bridge, under orders to drive them across the river and if possible compel them to destroy the bridge. The only road to the bridge runs between a swamp and the river for nearly a mile and was covered by the enemy's artillery. It was not until a path around the swamp could be found that the skirmishers succeeded in dislodging them. This was accomplished at 7.45 a. m. A force of cavalry and four pieces of artillery were developed. The rebels retreated across and from the river, taking off their guns and firing the bridge as they went. The remainder of the command broke camp at near Falling Creek Post-Office at 5 a. m., and moved forward to Cox's Cross-Roads, and at 8.15 the First Brigade and artillery moved out, following the Fourth Division on Bentonville road to near Mill Creek, at which point the enemy had made a stand, and formed in line of battle about 300 yards in rear of First and Fourth Divisions as a reserve. The Second Brigade was left at Cox's Cross-Roads as guard for the trains of the corps with instructions to skirmish with the enemy until further orders. At 6 p. m. it moved forward with the trains. At 6.30 p. m. the First Brigade moved forward on main road and formed in line of battle about 300 yards on the left and rear of First Division. The Second Brigade remained in line at the point vacated by the First Brigade. The artillery is parked on the east side of the main road and 200 yards in rear of First Brigade. Headquarters are on the road and right flank of the artillery. The casualties of the Second Brigade in the skirmish this morning were 2 severely and 1 slightly wounded.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements and operations of my command this instant: Pursuant to orders from corps headquarters I broke camp at 7 a. m., and following the First Division of this corps moved to the cross-roads near Neuse River; thence upon the Bentonville road to Mill Creek, near which my division is in position on the right of the First Division, General Woods', two brigades in line and one in reserve, and well intrenched, with skirmishers holding the high ground which constitutes the bank of the creek and swamp, and also intrenched confronting the enemy's skirmishers on the opposite bank. No serious demonstration has yet been made against my lines by the enemy and my position is, I think, a secure one. A list of casualties has not yet been received. My command has marched a distance of eight miles.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL
FIELD ORDERS, } HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 48. } *On Goldsborough Road,
Two Miles from Neuse River, March 20, 1865.*

I. The troops of this division will be in readiness to move on Bentonville at 5 a. m. the 20th instant, prepared for battle. No wagons to accompany them except those necessary in case of an engagement. All others will be closely parked at the cross-roads, near General Woods' camp, under a guard detailed from corps headquarters. Brigade commanders will see that the men bake up all the corn meal in their possession during the night, to be carried in haversacks. Brigades in the order of Third, First, Second. There are to-night strong indications of an engagement with the enemy during the day, and in order that the troops may be prepared for such an event, should it take place on this ground, as many men as there are tools will be actively engaged in the work of constructing fortifications under energetic officers. In case the division marches to the support of the Left Wing, or as above directed, the wagons to be taken will move in rear of battery, the center brigade by the side of same.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, on Goldsborough Road, March 20, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. W. RICE,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: By direction of the brevet major-general commanding division I have the honor to communicate to you the following instructions in his name: The movements of this instant will doubtless be very important, with a prospect of meeting the enemy, who is said to be commanded by General Lee in person. By the accompanying order* you will see what disposition is to be made of trains, and it is very important that your command is brought forward to this point in time for the movement expressed in said order should such take place, bringing forward all trains, including General Sherman's, which, however, must not interfere with the movements of the troops. You can supply your command with meal and meat from any such you may find in the hands of the division foraging detail, this being your authority for so doing. The labor to be performed, though it may be severe, is rendered necessary by the exigencies of the service.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 20, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST BRIGADE:

You will strengthen your position as much as possible during the night in anticipation of an attack in the morning. Where it can be done abatis will be extended well in front of the works, and when the

* See next, *ante*.

works are in open field lines of palisades can be constructed. Troops will at all times be in readiness to take to their arms. You will also, if practicable, intrench your skirmish line.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to commanding officers Second and Third Brigades.)

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 20, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: General Blair directs me to say that he wishes you to help forward the ordnance train of the Fourth Division if it gets into trouble, and at the same time push forward yourself, following the Fourth Division.

Respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 20, 1865—2 a. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: Yours of 8 p. m. 19th is just received, and I acknowledge receipt by direction of the general-in-chief, who instructs me also to say that the whole army is moving to your assistance as rapidly as possible. Upon its approach he wishes you to be prepared to assume the offensive against the enemy. Colonel Asmussen has directions for you. All ambulances will be given you that can.

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Falling Creek Church, March 20, 1865—4 a. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I got a dispatch from General Schofield yesterday saying he would start from Kinston for Goldsborough yesterday or to-day. I have just received information that General Terry camped his troops five miles south of Faison's yesterday, and that he in person reached Faison's on a train last night. I have ordered him to feel into Goldsborough for General Schofield and up to Cox's Bridge for me. We all move at 5 a. m. toward you; hold fast to your position, which I take for granted is now well fortified, but be ready to attack the enemy the moment you see signs of let go; follow him as far as Mill Creek, and take position covering the movement of your trains on the direct Goldsborough road. If it be true that General Terry has reached Faison's on a train, we will be able to send your wounded down to

Wilmington from Neuse River bridge. You shall have the use of every ambulance in the army not absolutely needed in the other corps and divisions.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: I have already ordered the movement to be made on the left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 20, 1865—8 p. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I find the topography of the country different from what I expected. The road from Falling Creek Church will be very bad in wet weather as far as Cox's Bridge, thence for eight miles very good, with sandy ground and open fields; hence about ten miles from Cox's Bridge we are on flat pine land, such as makes bad roads in wet weather. We struck the enemy on his left rear about noon and have pressed him pretty hard, and have dislodged him from all his barricades except the line constructed as against you, which may be double or inclosed, for our men find parapets from the road well down to Mill Creek. Johnston hoped to overcome your wing before I could come to your relief. Having failed in that, I cannot see why he remains and still think he will avail himself of night to get back to Smithfield. I would rather avoid a general battle if possible, but if he insists on it, we must accommodate him. In that event if he be in position to-morrow, I want you to make a good road around his flank into this, and to-morrow night pass your trains and dispose your troops so that we have our back toward Faison's and Goldsborough. General Schofield was to leave Kinston for Goldsborough to-day, and General Terry has arrived with 9,000 infantry at Faison's, and I have ordered him to Cox's Bridge to be drawn up here if we need him. I can also draw on General Schofield in a few days for 10,000, but I think we have enough. First, in case of being forced to fight the enemy here we must send our trains to Kinston for supplies, and therefore get a road at once around the flank of the enemy; the rest is in our possession. Retain ordnance and all wagons with food; all else should go down. Make no orders as yet, till to-morrow reveals the purpose of our enemy, but think the problem over. Post General Hazen to your right so as to join his own corps, the Fifteenth. Keep General Kilpatrick on your left rear; feel the enemy at several points to-night, and, if he retreats, try and get some prisoners. Make me a report of to-day's operations with you, and describe more fully the topography.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
March 20, 1865—12 midnight.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: Your communication of 8 p. m. has come to hand. I have already found a road around the flank of the enemy, and sent my wagons on it. My hospitals are also established on it. I had the Michigan Engineers at work on a bridge on that road, with instructions to put the road in good order. I can, at any time, move this wing to the Goldsborough road without a fight. I placed Hazen in position on my right, so that he could join his corps. The enemy has a good road leading from his position to Smithfield, with intrenchments covering it. If you find it necessary to fight him, I shall try to carry that part of his line, as it will cut off his retreat. I will send you a plat of the country to-morrow. I have given Major Audenried the details of yesterday's affair. Johnston was too slow; he allowed me to discover his strength before he made any strong efforts, and then found my men behind a very strong line of works. I have an excellent line, and the men were very industrious yesterday afternoon and last night. I do not believe my losses will exceed 1,500 killed, wounded, and missing. The enemy left many dead in front of my line. I will give you details as soon as possible.

Yours, truly,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 20, 1865—7.50 a. m.

Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move forward your skirmish line along the whole line and support it, but without bringing on a general engagement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Williams.)

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Brevet Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send to your train for a couple of days' rations for your troops, and order the balance of the train direct to Goldsborough.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you push forward your entire skirmish line, and supporting it, drive in the enemy's skirmishers, still holding your original lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

General Carlin has same instructions.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you throw up such works as will secure your present position, connecting them on the right with the troops which join you on that flank. and on the left with our old line, and remain for the night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 20, 1865—3 a. m.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to say that he has just received a communication from Major-General Sherman, and that the entire army is moving to our assistance. He wishes the troops informed of this fact, and he directs that the cartridge-boxes be filled, all stragglers and foragers collected together, and everything done to make the command as effective as possible to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move forward and ascertain the position of the enemy's lines on the left before dark.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, March 20, 1865.

Brigadier-General WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you move forward your skirmish line immediately, supporting it, but without bringing on a general engagement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 20, 1865.

General W. T. WARD:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding the corps directs that you have your command in readiness to move at daybreak to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, March 20, 1865—2 p. m.

General SCHOFIELD:

Your dispatch of yesterday is received. You can march into Goldsborough without opposition. General Terry is at Faison's and I have ordered him to Cox's Bridge till the present action is over. I am now within two miles of Slocum but Johnston is between us; we are now skirmishing. After occupying Goldsborough, if you hear nothing to the contrary, join a part of your forces with General Terry's and come to me wherever I may be.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

ROCKFORD, N. C., March 20, 1865—5 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN:

My troops will be at this place to-night, which is on the north bank of the Neuse, about midway between Kinston and Goldsborough. Unless I hear from you or get information indicating it to be unwise to do so, I will march for Goldsborough to-morrow. A troop of cavalry passed down the south bank this p. m., and I presume with dispatches from you or General Terry. If so, I will get them to-night.

. Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 20, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Headquarters:

General Easton has called for troops and I have sent him the Twenty-second Iowa and One hundred and thirty-first New York Regiments that I wrote you would go to the front. There is only one regiment left here of the Nineteenth Corps.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brigadier-General.

KINSTON, N. C., *March 20, 1865.*

Lient. Col. J. W. BARRIGER,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence of Department, New Berne:

The army is moving this morning with five days' rations. Second fleet of boats has arrived. As railroad is to be finished to river to-night I suppose all stores will be sent to that point. I remain here a few days, by direction of the general, to look to accumulation of supplies. Please crowd forward by rail.

R. B. TREAT,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Commissary of Subsistence.

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

The command will continue the movement toward Goldsborough to-morrow morning at 6 o'clock, unless otherwise ordered before that hour. General Carter will move in advance, followed by General Greene's division and General Ruger's division in rear. All wagons will move in one train at the rear of the corps under a strong guard furnished from General Ruger's division.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

Colonel SAVAGE,
Commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry:

The command will continue the movement toward Goldsborough to-morrow morning at 6 o'clock, unless otherwise ordered before that hour. You will conduct the movement of your command with similar views in mind as of to-day.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ON THE MARCH, *March 20, 1865.*

Colonel SAVAGE,
Commanding Cavalry:

It is desired that the cavalry should cover the roads so that the movement of an infantry column may not be known ahead of us, and

you will keep all persons coming into the lines, and allow none to go out on the flanks or ahead. Report when you arrive at Falling Creek.

J. D. COX,

Major-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, ARMY OF THE OHIO,

In the Field, March 20, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER OF BATTALION CAVALRY,

White Hall:

SIR: You will continue the movement toward Goldsborough, covering the head of the infantry column, to-morrow morning at 6 o'clock, unless otherwise ordered before that hour.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

In the Field, Falling Creek Church, March 20, 1865—4 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY,

Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have just learned through your cavalry of your arrival at Faison's. Johnston with his concentrated force made an unsuccessful attack on my Left Wing yesterday, near Bentonville. I am just starting with my Right Wing to attack him. Feel into Goldsborough for General Schofield, and up to the Falling Creek and Cox's Bridge for me. We have cavalry pickets south of Goldsborough. The Neuse bridges are burned.

W. T. SHERMAN,

Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

In the Field, Falling Creek Church, March 20, 1865—6 a. m.

Major-General TERRY,

Faison's Depot:

GENERAL: I have this moment received your dispatch of yesterday. I had just sent off a cipher dispatch to you, but as yours is plain I infer you have no cipher clerk. Yesterday Johnston with his force concentrated struck my Left Wing near Bentonville, and they had a severe battle, lasting until night. General Slocum beat them off, but was uneasy. I am now turning the Right Wing on Bentonville. I want you to move to Mount Olive Station and communicate with General Schofield, who ought to be at Goldsborough to-night, and then feel up for me on the south of the Neuse, toward Bentonville. Get the railroad from Northeast Branch to Neuse in running order, to the capacity of the captured stock. The railroad and road bridges near Goldsborough were burned yesterday on being threatened by some of our cavalry parties. If General Schofield gets to Goldsborough the road bridge should be rebuilt at once. If you need pontoons I can send you some of canvas. Half our trains are with General Slocum, near Bentonville, and the other half about eight miles south of this, on

the road from Cox's Bridge to Wilmington. By to-night I will know if Joe Johnston intends to fight me in force, when I will communicate further. Until you know the result, you and General Schofield should work up to my support, south of the Neuse.

Yours, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

P. S.—Send that cavalry regiment through to me via the Bentonville road. We hold the bridge over Falling Creek.

W. T. S.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 20, 1865—9 p. m.
Major-General TERRY,
Mount Olive:

GENERAL: We struck Johnston on his left rear to-day, and have been skirmishing pretty hard all day. We have opened communication with General Slocum, who had a hard fight yesterday. We are now ready for battle if Johnston desires it to-morrow, but as he has failed to overcome one wing he will hardly invite battle with both. I don't want to fight now or here, and therefore won't object to his drawing off to-night toward Smithfield, as he should. General Schofield moves to-day from Kinston for Goldsborough, and I wish you to go to Cox's, to which point I will send a pontoon train if I conclude to lay a bridge there. The north side of Neuse will afford us good foraging ground, and will be a direct threat to Smithfield and the rear of Johnston's army now to my front. I may have to send all my empty wagons to Kinston for clothing and supplies, but you would do well to have the railroad from Wilmington repaired up to the Neuse and you can draw supplies up that road. If Johnston insists on fighting us here I may call you up, but if he goes I will drop down to Goldsborough, put you about Faison's or Mount Olive and General Schofield at Kinston until we are resupplied and equipped for the next campaign. This will take us a couple of weeks. I suppose you will be put to your wits to feed your men until the roads are equipped, but it is wonderful how necessity develops the searching qualities of soldiers. My men seem to keep fat and healthy on parched corn and bacon. Have both bridges over Falling Water put in good order and tell General Schofield to repair at once the road bridge across the Neuse at Goldsborough. The railroad bridge will be built by Colonel Wright with his railroad gang. I do hope we will have some fine weather, as rain makes these roads terrible.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL ARMY CORPS,
Faison's Depot, March 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I forward inclosed cipher dispatches received at Wilmington just before I left there. There was no cipher operator there,

so that I could not ascertain their contents. I send them forward, although from a verbal message given to me by the operator I suppose them to have been intended for me.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALF. H. TERRY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Mount Olive, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Col. M. KERWIN,
Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry:

COLONEL: You will immediately proceed by the Bentonville road and Falling Creek bridge to report with your command to Major-General Sherman, whom you will find at or beyond the bridge mentioned above.

By order of Major-General Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCHING ORDERS.]

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Near Falling Creek, N. C., March 20, 1865.

The corps will march at 6 a. m. to-morrow, General Paine, with two brigades of his division, leading. One brigade of Paine's division will be left with the train, which will be moved forward in the morning to a point about three miles in advance of the present bivouac, where the trains of the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps are now parked. The only wagons to accompany the troops will be the headquarters wagons, those of the batteries, and ten wagons of the ordnance train, not including regimental headquarters wagons. The pontoon train will be parked with the train.

By order of Major-General Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of North Carolina:

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a field return of the forces under my command (A) on the 19th instant. It does not include the One hundred and sixty-ninth New York, of Brevet Major-General Ames' division, on Levison Creek, right bank of the Cape Fear, about fifteen miles distant, guarding a pontoon bridge and protecting an expected column of refugees. Probably there are also a few scattered individuals or squads left irregularly with baggage, &c., though General Abbott, commanding post, has hunted up nearly all such. I suppose that as fast as any considerable number of the invalids become fit for duty I am to forward them. I forward also a hospital morning report of the 19th, showing 3,689 sick. About 100 have since come in by way of Northeast River from Major-General Terry's column. About

2,000 of the sick are paroled prisoners. The medical officers claim to have asked for all they need, but they hear nothing of its coming. The deaths average about seventeen per day. The great wants are medical supplies and transportation. I can and do seize stimulants sufficient, but the great want of my whole command is transportation. The quartermasters tell us we have but fourteen wagons of all sorts. The hospitals could well use about all of these, but I have also many refugees to care for and the ordinary work of the post to do besides. The surgeons are exceedingly anxious to hear of hospital ships coming, as about 1,000 of their patients could then be sent North immediately. To our great joy the sanitary steamer Governor Chase arrived last evening, in charge of Doctors Dalton and Agnew, with underclothing enough to supply all the needy sick men, and a large stock of anti-scorbutics, articles of hospital diet, &c. A great amount of suffering is relieved thereby. I send also the morning report for the 19th of Lieutenant-Colonel Randlett, provost-marshal at this post, which sufficiently explains itself. Nearly 1,200 have taken the oath of allegiance since I took command. The people generally make but little trouble, in the city at least. Stray marauders annoy the inhabitants in all the region about us, but more particularly in Bladen and Brunswick Counties. In those districts are many rebel deserters, in some instances organized as companies. They subsist on the inhabitants, chiefly directing their attentions to citizens of strong rebel proclivities, and especially against enrolling officers, &c. Many of these are near their own homes. I believe the regular army could recruit from such men and from rebel deserters without our lines who have taken the oath, many men for cavalry service in the Northwest against the Indians. In requiring the oath, protecting the people, and suppressing rebellious manifestations, I govern myself as strictly as possible by the President's Amnesty Proclamation, General Orders, Nos. 64 and 190, series of 1864, Lieutenant-General Grant's order concerning deserters, and the department commander's Order, No. 8, to the best of my ability, with the most earnest desire to make the people love and honor, but at all hazards, obey the Government. Of course there will be mistakes in individual instances, but I feel entirely assured that the major-general commanding will hear me also if complaints are made. Four hundred or 500 refugees have reached us from Fayetteville, but the great column does not appear. I have landed stores on Point Peter to be ready for them, sent a capable officer familiar with the country with a good party of men up from Point Peter toward Moore's Creek to meet, guide, and help them, and also have sent a small steamer up the Cape Fear this morning with a detachment and a guard and a supply of food to look along the bank for signs of them. The gun-boat Eolus came down last night from Fayetteville, the last of Major-General Sherman's army having left there. She reports nothing new. I cannot find the officer, but I am told that he believes that some of our forces are putting a pontoon across just below Elizabethtown. If so, it must be to cross the refugees. Certainly I must hear from them within twenty-four hours. Enough contrabands and poor whites are here to give us much work. Besides sending some contrabands to Morehead City, at the request of General Beckwith I have organized a battalion, now numbering 530, to work about the streets, wharves, hospitals, and defenses. I give them full rations and their families the refugee ration. When any of them can show that they have secured employment elsewhere they can go. We shall soon have the city thoroughly clean. Brevet Brigadier-General Hayes I charged with collecting, inventory-

ing, and saving captured and abandoned personal property. He is doing good service. It requires great vigilance to keep from being cheated and robbed by lying rebels or thieving Northern speculators. Some cotton and tobacco, about which there was no question, has already been duly invoiced to the Treasury agent and sent to New York. Two or three parties have appeared here with cotton or rosin permits. They have not shown their papers, and I warn all persons not to make sales or transfers of such property without permission from district headquarters, under penalty of being imprisoned or summarily ejected, before I can get at the new legislation of Congress on these subjects or receive orders from Major-General Schofield. One Mr. Gibbons, contractor for the hides of Government beeves slaughtered, disclosed to me a desire that I should share in cotton and rosin speculations, he furnishing capital and I official assistance. He declared at New Berne General Palmer had made \$10,000 in one trade. Satisfied that he came here to defraud the Government, I put him in the watch-house, where he remains. Mr. Heaton, special supervising Treasury agent, has reported here with his local agents to care for property and trade—to all appearances a gentleman of integrity and certainly one of experience. He certainly relieves us of much embarrassment. I hope that the project of sending the surplus negroes to General Saxton's district will be carried out. It is rapidly getting late for the planting season, and our want of seeds, implements, and mules and carts makes it very difficult to locate them upon abandoned lands near here. The inclosed newspaper contains, among other orders, one providing for a fund to meet the semi-civil expenditures that I can hereby avoid. The rates are lower than are imposed in neighboring districts and will be reduced if they are likely to raise more than an economical administration will need. The long-expected construction corps does not arrive, save that about 200 men have come, under a Mr. Hawkesworth, who are busily engaged at the railroad machine-shops and putting the station in order. I have received favorably the renewed advances of certain parties who profess a desire to bring in some rolling-stock of the Manchester road and put the track in order, at least as far as the Little Pedee. The talk results in nothing thus far. I shall be very grateful for any instructions, advice, or suggestions the major-general commanding may have leisure to send. Venturing to congratulate him upon his continued success, I remain,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that Lieut. Col. H. C. Ransom, of the quartermaster's department, now on duty transferring the cotton captured at Savannah to the Treasury agents, be assigned to the same duties in the city of Charleston. The amount of cotton captured at Charleston will probably reach as high as 6,000 bales.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 20, 1865.

Capt. E. MARTELL,
Commissary of Subsistence:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the aggregate strength of the forces present is 274 commissioned officers and 6,844 enlisted men.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS CITY OF CHARLESTON,
Charleston, S. C., March 20, 1865.

Rear-Admiral JOHN A. DAHLGREN,
Commanding Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: Col. Stewart L. Woodford begs that about 200 colored seamen in uniform, with their officers, be sent to this city to-morrow by 1.30 p. m. to report to Lieut. Col. A. G. Bennett, at the Citadel, for the purpose of joining the procession of the freedmen of this city. The line will be formed at the Citadel green at 2 p. m.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. A. BATTERSON,
Second Lieut., 127th New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS CITY OF CHARLESTON,
Charleston, S. C., March 20, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. G. BENNETT,
Commanding Northern District:

COLONEL: By direction of the colonel commanding the city, you will have your regiment formed in line at 2 p. m. to-morrow to join in the procession of freedmen. Your regiment will have the right, and application has been made for 200 colored sailors to have the left of the line. They will report to you at the green at about 1.30. You will reduce the guards in your district just as much as possible to-morrow, in order that you may turn out as many men as can possibly be spared.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. A. BATTERSON,
Second Lieut., 127th New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 21, 1865—9 a. m.*
(Received 3 p. m.)

Major-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, Washington:

Has rolling-stock sufficient to supply an army of 100,000 men, with the usual proportion of cavalry, transportation, and artillery, over a distance of 130 miles, been sent to New Berne? If not, more should be sent at once.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *March 21, 1865—5 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

Dispatch of 9 a. m. received. Rolling-stock is being sent to New Berne. General McCallum, who received his instructions directly from General Sherman at Savannah, is attending to this. It is not going forward as fast as I could wish. Its embarkation is confined to certain docks at New York and Wilmington, Del., where alone the facilities are to be found, and where the wide gauge engines and cars are collected. General McCallum was here last week, and has gone back to New York to urge it forward. It requires many vessels, and the ice interfered with the earlier shipments. Whatever is possible is being done to get forward a sufficient supply of rolling-stock. Your dispatch will be sent to him.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General and Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
FIELD ORDERS, } *In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C.,*
No. 33. } *March 21, 1865.*

I. Major-General Howard, commanding Right Wing, will retain only such wagons as are essential to immediate operations and dispatch the balance, under small escort, to Kinston for a supply of provisions. He will establish a temporary depot for his command south of the Neuse River and east of the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad, in which to deposit his camp equipage, whilst his wagons are engaged in bringing up stores.

II. Major-General Slocum, commanding Left Wing, will in like manner establish a temporary depot at a point south of the Neuse River and west of the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad, in which to deposit his camp equipage, whilst his wagons are engaged in bringing him supplies from Kinston. He will send his wounded to a temporary hospital camp on the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad convenient to Goldsborough. The wagons needed for immediate operations will be shifted around the left flank of the Right Wing to a point between Cox's Bridge and the rear of the Right Wing.

III. General Kilpatrick, commanding cavalry, will in like manner establish a temporary depot on the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad, near Mount Olive Station, to which point he will send all incumbrances that will impede his march.

IV. General Slocum will send his bridge train to Cox's Bridge to report to Major-General Terry, who will effect a crossing of Neuse River at that point and cover it on the north side by at least one brigade intrenched. General Howard will send his bridge train to some good crossing between his temporary depot and Goldsborough.

V. Major-General Schofield, commanding Army of the Ohio, will occupy Goldsborough and make disposition to cross over Little River in the direction of Smithfield.

VI. Col. W. W. Wright will use extraordinary exertions to complete the railroad into Goldsborough, and provide rolling-stock for moving a maximum quantity of supplies.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Capt. F. W. GILBRETH, *Aide-de-Camp*:

CAPTAIN: Please allow General Blair's brigade to move on up at once. At his request I have changed my order regarding it. Use the engineer regiment and such detachments as you can find. The Fifteenth Army Corps will send a regiment, which will leave here to-morrow morning and will reach you before the train can be entirely drawn out.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL
 FIELD ORDERS, }
 No. 67.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND
 ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

In accordance with Special Field Orders, No 33, headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, a temporary depot for this command will be established near Neuse River at the first practicable approach east of Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. All wagons not necessary for immediate use now filled with surplus camp and garrison equipage, or other surplus stores, will be sent to this depot and unloaded, and will then proceed to Kinston for supplies. One regiment will be sent from each corps to the depot as a guard, and the senior officer will have command of the depot. As soon as General Schofield's forces have occupied Goldsborough, Capt. C. B. Reese, chief engineer, will lay the pontoons over the river, and with a view to that purpose will have the line of the river reconnoitered to-day. As soon as the wagons of the Left Wing have passed to our right rear, it will be necessary for the Right Wing to take roads south of the one by Cox's Bridge. The roads leading from the center of the Fifteenth Army Corps, where the guide board reads, "Twenty miles to Goldsborough," will be put in repair by the pioneers of that corps. Captain Reese will have all the routes from this point to the depot reconnoitered to-day, and will advise corps commanders.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, March 21, 1865.

Major GILLETTE,
Provost-Marshal, Fifteenth Army Corps:

Have you any information this evening, received from prisoners or deserters, different from what has been previously received? If so, send it in brief.

Yours, &c.,

JAMES WILSON,
Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General, Army of the Tennessee.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Provost-Marshal's Office, March 21, 1865.

No information has been received to-day of importance. Several prisoners have been captured, but they seem to know little relative to

the movements of the enemy. Those captured were in front of the First Division, and belong to Hoke's command. They state that last night troops were moving to their left, and that their command was ordered to move, but they knew not where. The order, however, was countermanded during the night. They state that nearly the whole of the army was on this side of the river this morning. Their opinion is that the enemy intends crossing the river.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK C. GILLETTE,
Major and Provost-Marshal, Fifteenth Army Corps.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, March 21, 1865.

[General J. A. LOGAN:]

GENERAL: Your trains are in park on the left-hand side of the road, where General Woods left them last night. I reported them to the officer in command of the brigade of the Seventeenth Army Corps this morning, or rather, to one of his staff officers at his headquarters. This brigade is now gone, and so has the commanding officer, and the Seventeenth Corps trains are moving. Nothing has been said to me about moving our trains, and I am informed that Colonel Montgomery says he has received no orders to guard our trains. In this state of the case I will take the responsibility of moving up our trains as soon as I can get the road to some point near the troops. General Terry is now passing with a column about two miles to our right. I understand there are two division trains of the Seventeenth Corps about four or five miles in our rear, but I don't know where they are. There are no troops left with us, except the few train guards. I do not apprehend the least danger here, but shall follow up unless I get other orders.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

G. L. FORT,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps.

P. S.—We are now about five miles in the rear of where your headquarters were night before last.

FORT.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL:

MAJOR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note and orders. The last division train all came into camp last night at 8 p. m., and to-day we lay in camp with the trains all in park, and are collecting forage, repairing wagons, harness, &c. The roads yesterday were as bad as I ever saw, but the mules are getting rest to-day and will be fresh. I will have every wagon emptied that can be and sent for supplies as soon as a guard or the orders come to move. I suppose it will require but a small train guard. There are a number of empty wagons with the troops sent forward with supplies, and some others were loaned to regiments for foraging purposes. These, I think, should be sent back at once, so that they may be loaded with supplies at Kinston, if there are sufficient for us. I will send a quartermaster specially

to secure all the clothing and stores he can for our corps. Colonel Carpenter went to the front this morning with supplies, and he can bring back all the empty wagons.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. L. FORT,

Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,

Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general understood that there were two regiments besides General Woods' brigade with the train, and the order was to bring forward General Woods' brigade only. General Blair had withdrawn the brigade, understanding that but one regiment would remain at the temporary depot, and that the rest be brought forward at once, so that there was but one organized regiment there at best. It was understood also from Major Woodhull that there were two regiments with the train. The general wishes that the regiment intended as a guard for the temporary depot be sent as early as possible in the a. m., and that your prisoners be sent with it if they can be got ready. Captain Gilbreth was sent back this a. m., with orders to take all trains to Everettville, using the engineer regiment and all detachments as a guard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

[General Woods:]

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to strengthen your position and intrench your skirmish line during the night, and in the morning feel forward with your skirmishers to ascertain whether any change has been made in the rebel line. Please report any change you may at any time discover, and the result of the advance of your skirmish line ordered for the morning.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Hazen and Corse.)

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that upon advancing my line of skirmishers this morning the enemy were still occupying their skirmish pits, and that my pickets report that the enemy were working during the night building works.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,

Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that my skirmish line was advanced this morning as directed. The enemy has stubbornly resisted my skirmishers all day, giving up their ground only when well pressed by a very heavy skirmish line. My main line I moved forward during the morning a distance of 250 yards, establishing a new line on a ridge of ground affording me a far better position. My skirmishers in advancing drove the rebels from an intrenched line so that they are thrown back on their main works. I have directed each brigade to put one regiment out on the line to-night, with instructions to intrench both advance and reserve lines well before morning. I hold now all the ground that I have taken during the day. Brevet Brigadier-General Woods' First Brigade having reported, gives me my entire division; each brigade is on the line with about one-half its regiments in the advance works. I will forward a list of casualties as soon as they can be obtained from the brigades.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bennettsville [Bentonville], N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division was brought from the left of the army and reported to its proper corps commander at about 11 a. m. to-day, and two brigades put in line about 250 yards in front of the enemy, connecting with the First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, on the right, and endeavoring to do so with that of General Morgan, Fourteenth Corps, on the left, but that corps being some 500 yards more distant from the enemy than the Fifteenth, it was found impracticable to connect with it, and my reserve brigade was massed just to the right and in rear of the interval between them. The troops were to-day intrenched, and the skirmish line constantly engaged. There were to-day 3 killed and 20 wounded.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following as the operations of this command during the day: For the purpose of obtaining suitable ground the First Brigade was moved to a position on the lower Goldsborough road, and is now encamped upon both sides of the road, about 500 yards from the Bentonville road, in column by regiments, fronting east, the remainder of the division occupying the same position as was stated in last report. These headquarters are on the east side of and

about 100 yards from the Bentonville road, immediately in front of the left of the Second Brigade. The division has been held in reserve during the day, and under orders to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I have made some changes in the position of my troops during the day, although there are two brigades confronting the enemy as before, but more advanced with the right of the line (one brigade) thrown forward at an angle of 35 degrees upon the left brigade. At 3 p. m., with a re-enforced skirmish line, I assaulted the enemy's skirmishers and drove them from their rifle-pits, but failed to hold them in consequence of the left being exposed to a flank fire from the left, the brigade holding General Woods' right not supporting the movement, and the enemy's pits on the right of my line being in such close proximity to the main works as to expose the men to a murderous fire therefrom. I have four pieces of artillery in position in my advanced works, and used them to very good advantage during the afternoon and evening. The casualties during the day, I think, will not exceed forty men.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
March 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR, *Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that there is a bridge over Mill Creek, about four miles below here, which is not guarded. He wishes you to send a picket to the point immediately. The bearer of this will guide the picket to the bridge. He also wishes, if they are not already out of sight, that your trains be parked sufficiently far to the rear to be unseen by the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bentonville, March 21, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER GUARD AT CORPS TRAIN:

SIR: The train under charge of Colonel Joel, chief quartermaster, has been ordered to move to a depot east of the railroad. You will move your command with it, and furnish a regiment to Colonel Joel as guard to a train to be sent to Kinston.

By order of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. H. W. MILLS,

Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Seventeenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Colonel Joel has been directed to move his train to a temporary depot to be established east of the railroad and from there to send all empty wagons to Kinston for sugar, coffee, hard bread, and shoes. You will go with it and procure the commissary supplies. The general wishes you to have all supplies compactly loaded and sent to the command here at once. The wagons so sent will be unloaded here and sent to Kinston.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Lieut. Col. E. M. JOEL,

Chief Quartermaster Seventeenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you move the trains of the Third and Fourth Divisions to Mount Olive Depot, and there await directions from Captain Steele, who has gone to find the location of a temporary depot to be established by Captain Reese, chief engineer, on the Neuse River east of the railroad. As soon as practicable after establishing your train at this depot you will take all the empty wagons to Kinston and bring back sugar, coffee, hard bread, and shoes. For this purpose wagons loaded with foraged supplies and surplus camp and garrison equipage will be unloaded at the depot. Captain Steele will be at Mount Olive this p. m. I have ordered General Mower's train to move to Everettsville and the quartermaster to communicate with you at Mount Olive.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
[March 21], 1865—2 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, *General-in-Chief:*

GENERAL: I am informed by Colonel Poe that you design swinging this wing to the left and rear of the Right. It can be done, I think, without difficulty. I shall, of course, keep my present lines, withdrawing gradually from my extreme left. I shall not commence the movement without further orders from you, but shall be prepared to commence it to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM, *Commanding Left Wing:*

GENERAL: General Sherman directs me to say Colonel Poe has returned from your headquarters and that you may commence the

movement, viz, from your left to the left rear of the Right Wing to-morrow morning. General Terry has arrived at Cox's Bridge and awaits the arrival of your bridge train.

I am, general, with respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The best mode of drawing from your left to the right is to let the cavalry relieve by a thin skirmish line the skirmishers of the left corps till it has gained its new position, when it, too, can withdraw. So instruct General Kilpatrick.

SHERMAN.

MARCH 21, 1865—3.15 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: A deserter from Cheatham's command has just come into our lines. He says Hoke, Cheatham, Lee, Stewart, and Hardee are there, Hoke on their left and Hardee on their right. He says two divisions from Lee's army have just arrived. Came last evening and this morning. He states that they have a strong line of works about half a mile the other side of the creek. He is intelligent and I am disposed to believe him.

Yours, truly,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
No. 28. } *In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.*

I. Corps commanders will at once remove all sick and wounded to a camp near the point at which the road from Cox's Bridge to Everettsville crosses the road from Goldsborough to Dead Fields. A temporary hospital will be established at that point. Every spare wagon will be at once sent to Kinston for the purpose of bringing up supplies of subsistence and forage.

II. Each corps commander will establish a temporary depot near the temporary hospital above-mentioned, where baggage will be left while the wagons are hauling supplies. All prisoners will be at once sent to that point under a suitable guard.

III. Lieutenant-Colonel Moore, commanding pontoniers, will remove the pontoon bridge train to Cox's Bridge and report to Major-General Terry.

* * * * *

V. First Lieut. William Ludlow is relieved from duty as chief engineer on the staff of the major-general commanding and will report to Col. O. M. Poe, chief engineer, Military Division of the Mississippi.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.

General DAVIS,

Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold your corps ready to take the offensive. He has just been informed by the general-in-chief that a general engagement this afternoon is not improbable.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Major-General DAVIS,

Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the Twentieth Corps will be moved to the rear of the Right Wing to-morrow. Your corps will probably follow the next day. He wishes you to conform to the position, as your corps will be on the left and rear of the army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Major-General DAVIS,

Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that you need not make any change in the position of your troops at present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.]

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Division commanders will hold their commands in readiness to take the offensive. The general-in-chief deems a general engagement this afternoon not improbable.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. Jef. C. Davis:

A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—General Davis does not think this need interfere with General Morgan's execution of his last orders.

Respectfully,

A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, March 21, 1865—8.40 a. m.
Lieutenant-Colonel MCCLURG,

Asst. Adj. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have nothing of importance to communicate this morning. The enemy still behind their works in our front. A division of the Fifteenth Corps has taken up position on the right of the First Brigade. At 9 p. m. last evening General Mitchell informed me that a brigade of General Baird's moved from his left, withdrawing their skirmish line. The Third Brigade of my division (held in reserve) was at once ordered to the position thus vacated, which they now hold.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.
Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Davis has just returned from riding the lines. He directs me to say to you that he considers Colonel Langley's brigade entirely exposed to the attack of the enemy at any time they may choose to make it. He directs you to withdraw your left and connect it with General Carlin's line (uncovering the latter), strengthen your right, and mass the remainder of your unoccupied troops in your rear on the best ground you can find. General Slocum is not going to move out the Twentieth Corps.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.
General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold your corps ready to take the offensive. He has just been informed by the general-in-chief that a general engagement this afternoon is not improbable. General Sherman has attacked the enemy on the right, and General Slocum wishes you to send a brigade of infantry with a section of artillery in the direction of Mill Creek bridge, to reconnoiter and to press the enemy closely. General Kilpatrick will co-operate with you. Let the brigade move as soon as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

He says you may take two brigades if you prefer it.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

All of the wagons and pack trains and vehicles of every kind, except the artillery now with this corps, will move at 5.30 a. m. to-morrow

toward Cox's Bridge. The One hundred and second New York Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Chatfield commanding, is hereby detailed as escort for these trains. Each division commander will have all of his wagons and pack animals report to Colonel Chatfield at 5 a. m. at the cross-roads near these headquarters. In marching these trains Colonel Chatfield will have the pack trains precede the wagons, and he will have the ammunition wagons follow the headquarters wagons. The infantry will be in readiness at 5.30 a. m. to move at a moment's notice.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.]

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

The medical director of this corps will at once establish a temporary hospital near the intersection of the Cox's Bridge and Everetttsville road with the road from Goldsborough to Dead Fields, and have all the sick and wounded of the command moved there. Captain Whittelsey will establish a temporary depot near the temporary hospital above mentioned. He will have the wagons unloaded at that point and send every available wagon to Kinston for supplies of subsistence stores and forage. Division commanders will send at once all regimental wagons and empty supply wagons to report to Captain Whittelsey for this duty. The baggage will be unloaded at the temporary depot. Colonel Mindil will send with the train as guard to and from Kinston two regiments. The balance of his command will remain as a guard for the temporary depot. Colonel Mindil will assume the command of the whole camp. General Geary will detail one regiment to escort the hospital and other trains from this point until they join the train now under charge of Colonel Mindil, when it will return and report to its proper command. The commanding officer of this regiment will report at these headquarters at once for instructions. Lieutenant Stevens, ambulance officer of the Second Division, will take charge of the hospital trains until they reach the hospital. Lieut. H. C. Smith, One hundred and fiftieth New York Volunteers, acting assistant quartermaster, will take charge of the wagon train and report with it to Captain Whittelsey. Major Parks, provost-marshal, will send with the train to the temporary depot all of the prisoners he has in charge. On their arrival at the camp Colonel Mindil will take charge of them and send them under guard with the train to Kinston and turn them over to the commanding officer at that point. Lieutenant-Colonel Moore will move at once with his pontoon train to Cox's Bridge and report to Major-General Terry.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 21, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: I am still upon the left, holding the roads to the left and rear. Everything is quiet this a. m. I have not yet heard from the

Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. I am very anxious to have it join me, and send a staff officer to see if it can be found.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Brevet Major-General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your two communications of this date are received. The Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry is now with General Terry, and until the railroad is completed will be required for service between the army and Kinston, and so long as we draw supplies from that point there will be greater need than ever for foraging by the infantry.

I am, general, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 21, 1865—3 p. m.

General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I think General Mower has got around the flank toward Mill Creek, threatening the enemy's line of retreat. Look out, and in case of a general battle hold your cavalry massed and dash at infantry toward the Mill Creek bridge on the road from Bentonville to Smithfield.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, March 21, 1865.
(Received 25th.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *City Point, Va.:*

I have the honor to report that I occupied Goldsborough this p. m. with but slight opposition. General Terry's column from Wilmington was at Faison's Depot last night and should be near this place to-night. General Sherman's left was engaged with the enemy near Bentonville on Sunday. The artillery firing was quite rapid during the day, and for a short time Monday morning. General Sherman's right (the Seventeenth Corps) was near Mount Olive Sunday night. There has been some artillery firing during to-day, which indicates a gradual approach of General Sherman's army toward this place. All this being strictly in accordance with General Sherman's plans, I have no doubt all is well. I hope to have more definite and later information from General Sherman very soon, and will forward it to you without delay. I find the railroad bridges burned, but otherwise the road is not injured, and the depot facilities here are very fine. I captured here 7 cars, and General Terry has captured 2 locomotives and 2 cars, which he is now using.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, March 21, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I occupied Goldsborough this afternoon with only slight opposition. Your cipher dispatch of Sunday night has just reached me, but my cipher clerk has not yet come up. I will have my pontoon bridge laid early in the morning, and will be ready to carry out your orders as soon as I can get your dispatch deciphered. I infer from all that I have heard, including the sound of artillery, that your left had a pretty heavy fight on Sunday, and that you were probably compelled to concentrate your army, but that all is well and in accordance with your plans.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21. 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD, *Commanding Army of the Ohio:*

GENERAL: Captain Twining is here and I send by him an order that you will perceive looks to staying here some days.* I thought Johnston, having failed, as he attempted to crush one of my wings, finding he had not succeeded but that I was present with my whole force, would withdraw, but he has not, and I must fight him here. He is twenty miles from Smithfield with a bad road to his rear, but his position is in the swamps, difficult of approach, and I don't like to assail his parapets, which are of the old kind. As soon as you get to Goldsborough leave a small garrison, break the bridge across Little River above the railroad, but use the one near its mouth at old Waynesborough and advance to Millard, where you can effect a junction with Terry. He need leave a very small picket at Cox's Bridge. Make up a force of about 25,000 men, leaving at Goldsborough Carter's division, if as I understand, it is composed of troops properly belonging to this army. Let me know the moment these combinations are made, when we can act. I would like to have your pontoon bridge across Neuse about Jericho, so that our trains to and from Kinston can use it. General Howard will bridge at or near Goldsborough and General Slocum at Cox's. The roads are now comparatively good and I want to make the most of the good weather, but the moment Johnston gives ground I propose to fall back on Goldsborough and await the completion of our railroad and re-equipment of my army. I will probably post you at Kinston, General Terry about Faison's, and this army at Goldsborough. You will probably find plenty of corn, bacon, and corn meal in the country from Waynesborough to Millard. The road near the Neuse is also better than the one back, as it is better drained. All the heads of creeks in this region are swamps and level pine lands that afford bad roads. I expect you surely at Goldsborough to-day and that you have at once secured the bridge across Little River. I don't think you will find over there anything but cavalry. Hoke is to our front. We took prisoners from his command yesterday.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

* See Special Field Orders, No. 33, p. 930.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865—11.30 a. m.
Major-General SCHOFIELD, *Commanding Army of the Ohio:*

DEAR GENERAL: Yours of 5 p. m. 20th instant is just to hand and read by the general-in-chief, who directs me to say that full instructions have been forwarded you by Colonel Twining, who left us this a. m. Instructions have also been sent General Terry. As yet to-day it is comparatively quiet. The enemy does not seem disposed to persist in his attacks. His losses have been severe, while ours will not overreach 2,000 total.

I am, general, with respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 21, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD:

I have just arrived from Beaufort. Left Wilmington last evening. The boats had returned that I sent eighty miles up Northeast River with supplies for General Terry. He took everything that he could carry. I see everything is confusion at Beaufort. Had I not better return to Wilmington and move my office to New Berne and bring to this point everything that will be of service here, after giving the necessary instructions to my officers at Wilmington? General Easton desires me to bring him 400 good contrabands. I can get them at Wilmington. I would like to see you. Do you desire me to come to the front?

Respectfully,

GEO. S. DODGE,
Bvt. Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of North Carolina.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY,
Morehead City, March 21, 1865.

Col. J. W. BARRIGER,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence,
Department of North Carolina, New Berne, N. C.:

COLONEL: I am reliably informed that in the surrounding country within a circuit of twenty-five miles of Wilmington there exists a sufficient quantity of beef-cattle and sheep to subsist the troops in that vicinity for a long time. Owing to the high price of fresh beef and the difficulty in shipping cattle, I would advise that you cause foraging parties to be sent frequently to procure them for the use of the command at Wilmington and vicinity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BECKWITH,
Col., Aide-de-Camp, and Chief Com. of Sub., Mil. Div. of the Miss.

[Indorsement.]

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE,
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., March 25, 1865.

Respectfully referred to Lieut. Col. J. A. Campbell, assistant adjutant-general, headquarters Department of North Carolina, with request,

if the major-general commanding approve the within, that orders be issued to the commanding general of the District of Wilmington to send out foraging parties and turn over the cattle, &c., obtained to Capt. F. G. Hentig, commissary of subsistence at Wilmington.

J. W. BARRIGER,

Lieut. Col. and Chief Commissary of Subsistence.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,

In the Field, Goldsborough, March 21, 1865.

Col. W. W. WRIGHT,

Chief Engineer, New Berne, N. C.:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to inform you that we have occupied Goldsborough, and the railroad is uninjured except as to the bridges. General Terry captured two locomotives and a number of cars south of the river. He desires you will push forward a section of the construction corps as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully,

WM. M. WHERRY,

Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,

In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Colonel SAVAGE,

Commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs that you send a company of cavalry with the accompanying dispatches to Kinston, N. C., with instructions to return up the railroad, clearing it of any rebel scouts, and leaving it open and safe for the telegraph construction party to put up the wires. He desires the company to start about midnight.

Very respectfully,

WM. M. WHERRY,

Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,

Commanding at Cox's Bridge:

GENERAL: I have just learned of your arrival at Cox's Bridge by Major Graves, of your staff. I have no orders other than those sent you this morning. You can do nothing north of the Neuse River till the pontoon bridge reaches you. I have not heard by what road General Slocum sent it, but fear he sent it by the back road which will come into Cox's by way of Falling Creek Church. This rain will again spoil our roads, and it is vital to us to get supplies up. We have pretty well stripped this region, but I know there is a good country north of the Neuse. Find out as soon as you can when General Schofield is in Goldsborough and let me know. I think there is nothing in that quarter but cavalry and not much of that. From the front of infantry displayed by the enemy Johnston must have here his entire army.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,

Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

In the Field, Near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865—6 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,

Cox's Bridge:

GENERAL: It is manifest that we are not to be favored with weather. After raining six weeks it has apparently set in for another six weeks. I wish whilst waiting for the pontoon train you would keep strong details corduroying the roads at the low places, especially in the bottoms of Falling Creek at both bridges, or at the bridges on both roads, viz, the one from Cox's to Goldsborough, and the one from Falling Creek School-House to Goldsborough. Better keep 1,000 men on detail for such work. We will corduroy back toward you, and you toward Goldsborough. Rails are pretty good, but pine saplings ten inches through the cut, split in two, the flat side laid down, make a better road. We have had some pretty sharp skirmishing all round the line, but nothing material either way. If I could get the railroad done to Goldsborough I would be better off than Johnston, as he has the same weather and, I think, a worse road to his base at Smithfield—both distances twenty miles. I am very anxious to hear of General Schofield at Goldsborough, and especially that the railroad is done to that point. It should have been completed before I got here.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,

Near Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES J. PAINE,

Commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding requests that, as soon as the pontoon bridge is completed, you will order the brigade of your command stationed at the river to cross the pontoon and intrench on the other side so as to form a strong bridge-head, with both flanks resting on the river and the salient well thrown forward.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, March 21, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,

Commanding Provisional Corps:

SIR: I send Mr. Phelps, master mechanic, with six carpenters, six machinists, and twenty laborers up to Magnolia and thereabouts, with full instructions to repair any and all cars that he can catch, and I explain to him all that you tell me about the machine-shop at Magnolia. Wallace, president of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, tells me the superintendent did not mean to send tools away from Magnolia if he could help it. The trouble is not in finding mechanics, but the tools are missing. I am hunting up the creek for some, giving notice in the town, offering employment to such as will bring tools, &c. I also send Captain McClure, of the engineers, to make a temporary landing place at Northeast. He takes a party. I send on the same steamer another load of provisions. If you can keep the rebels off we

can help you a great deal, even with this bit of road. A new locomotive has come, but very few men with it. I've a good mind to try and take it above Northeast. Pray advise Phelps about that. A great pity those bridges cannot be built. If we had axes and shovels we could try one of them and much other work. Four hundred thousand hard-bread rations are at the bar; a portion are on their way up. Six thousand refugees have arrived in one column. This gives us enough land transportation for all local purposes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Three thousand eight hundred sick in hospital; deaths, eighteen or twenty a day. Rev. Mr. Eaton, Seventh Connecticut, died yesterday of typhoid fever. Dr. Palmer died of the same this morning, both from overwork. Buzzell is dangerously ill. Sanitary steamer with a blessed cargo arrived yesterday.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 21, 1865.

SENIOR NAVAL OFFICER,

Cape Fear River and Harbor:

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration one or two matters in which the navy can assist me materially. Not being familiar with your practices, you can advise as to what can be done. Vessels regularly employed by the quartermasters of the army should never sail without written orders from the chief quartermaster here, or at least the quartermaster in charge of water transportation. Bvt. Brig. Gen. G. S. Dodge is chief quartermaster of the department, and Capt. S. T. Lamb is in charge of water transportation here. Sutlers' and traders' vessels are not required to take papers from quartermasters, but in absence of custom-house officers I require my assistant provost-marshals to search all such vessels, and they should not be allowed to leave the port without a clearance from one of them. Lieut. Col. James F. Randlett is my provost-marshal for Wilmington, assisted by Captain Edgerly. Now what I would much like is to have your guard ship hail all vessels going out particularly (you have your own instructions as to those coming in), and see their papers. It will not do to take their word. All trading or sutlers' vessels that have not the provost-marshal's clearance should be seized. If they are so seized and reported to me I will punish the masters severely. You know, of course, that there is a great temptation to steal here and enough of opportunity. I have been anxious to call on you, but I am driven beyond endurance by the press of business. I hope soon to have the honor of calling. Is it possible for you to keep a picket boat a little way up the Cape Fear, northwest, to examine people coming down by boats? Except deserters coming from the rebels, escaped Federal prisoners, and absolutely destitute, starving citizens, I wish nobody to come to town for the present. There are 6,000 refugees on Point Peter. We shall try to keep most of them there until they can be shipped or distributed on plantations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel COLVIN, *Comdg. U. S. Forces, Levison Creek:*

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to inform you that the train of refugees from Sherman's army has arrived here, and that as there is no further occasion for your command to remain at Levison Creek, you will come at once to this city with all your command, reporting on your arrival to Brevet Brigadier-General Abbott, commanding post.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 E. LEWIS MOORE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, }
 No. 1. }

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
New Berne, N. C., March 21, 1865.

In accordance with orders from headquarters Department of North Carolina, Army of the Ohio, the undersigned hereby assumes command of this district, it being the same organization, with some additions, formerly under his command and known as the District of North Carolina. All existing orders and regulations will remain in force until otherwise ordered. The following officers are announced as the staff: Capt. J. A. Judson, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. E. T. Parkinson, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. Col. James H. Strong, First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers, acting assistant inspector-general; Capt. J. K. Wing, assistant quartermaster, U. S. Volunteers, chief quartermaster; Capt. William L. Palmer, commissary of subsistence, U. S. Volunteers, chief commissary of subsistence; First Lieut. C. T. Pearce, Fifth Rhode Island Artillery, ordnance officer; First Lieut. J. B. Bissell, Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers, chief provost-marshal and provost judge; First Lieut. William Goodrich, jr., Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers, aide-de-camp; First Lieut. E. M. Ketcham, Twelfth New York Volunteer Cavalry, acting aide-de-camp.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
 No. 1. }

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
New Berne, N. C., March 21, 1865.

I. The two companies of the Second Massachusetts Artillery now in New Berne will be at once reported to Col. Charles H. Stewart, Third New York Artillery, commanding the town, for provost guard duty.

* * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer :

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, March 22, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: Accept my thanks for your very welcome letter from Fayetteville.* With the whole country I have been watching in hope,

* See March 12, p. 793.

confidence, and admiration your advance from Savannah toward the final conquest of the rebellion. It will gratify me very much to hear from you directly whenever you have time to address me a line. My earnest prayer is that Divine Providence may watch over you, shield and protect you from every danger, and crown you with its choicest blessings. I take advantage of General Meigs' visit to your army, for the purpose of seeing to its proper supplies, to say God speed you.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,

Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Although the Richmond papers do not communicate the fact, yet I saw enough in them to satisfy me that you occupied Goldsborough on the 19th instant. I congratulate you and the army on what may be regarded as the successful termination of the third campaign since leaving the Tennessee River less than one year ago. Since Sheridan's very successful raid north of the James the enemy are left dependent on the South Side and Danville roads for all their supplies. These I hope to cut next week. Sheridan is at White House shoeing up and resting his cavalry. I expect him to finish by Friday night and to start the following morning via Long Bridge, New Market, Bermuda Hundred and the extreme left of the army, around Petersburg. He will make no halt with the armies operating here, but will be joined by a division of cavalry 5,500 strong from the Army of the Potomac, and will proceed directly to the South Side and Danville roads. His instructions will be to strike the South Side road as near Petersburg as he can and destroy it so that it cannot be repaired for three or four days, and push on to the Danville road as near to the Appomattox as he can get. Then I want him to destroy the road toward Burkeville as far as he can, then push on to the South Side road west of Burkeville and destroy it effectually. From that point I shall probably leave it to his discretion either to return to this army, crossing the Danville road south of Burkeville, or go and join you, passing between Danville and Greensborough. When this movement commences I shall move out by my left with all the force I can, holding present intrenched lines. I shall start with no distinct view further than holding Lee's forces from following Sheridan, but I shall be along myself and will take advantage of anything that turns up. If Lee detaches I will attack, or if he comes out of his lines I will endeavor to repulse him and follow it up to the best advantage. It is most difficult to understand what the rebels intend to do. So far but few troops have been detached from Lee's army. Much machinery has been removed and material has been sent to Lynchburg, showing a disposition to go there. Points, too, have been fortified on the Danville road. Lee's army is much demoralized and great numbers are deserting. Probably from returned prisoners and such conscripts as can be picked up his numbers may be kept up. I estimate his force now at about 65,000 men. Wilson started on Monday with 12,000 cavalry from Eastport. Stoneman started on the same day from East Tennessee toward Lynchburg. Thomas is moving the Fourth Corps to Bull's Gap. Canby is moving with a formidable force on Mobile and the interior of Alabama. I ordered Gillmore, as soon as the fall of Charleston was known, to hold

all important posts on the seacoast and to send to Wilmington all surplus forces. Thomas was also directed to forward to New Berne all troops belonging to the corps with you. I understand this will give you about 5,000 men besides those brought east by Meagher. I have been telegraphing General Meigs to hasten up locomotives and cars for you. General McCallum, he informs me, is attending to it. I fear they are not going forward as fast as I would like. Let me know if you want more troops or anything else.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cox's Bridge, over Neuse River, N. C.,
March 22, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *Commander-in-Chief, City Point, Va. :*

GENERAL: I wrote you from Fayetteville, N. C., on Tuesday, the 14th instant, that I was all ready to start for Goldsborough, to which point I had also ordered General Schofield from New Berne, and General Terry from Wilmington. I knew that General Joe Johnston was supreme in command against me, and that he would have time to concentrate a respectable army to oppose the last stage of this march. Accordingly General Slocum was ordered to send his main supply train under escort of two divisions straight for Bentonville, whilst he, with his other four divisions disencumbered of all unnecessary wagons, should march toward Raleigh by way of threat as far as Averagesborough. General Howard in like manner sent his trains with the Seventeenth Corps well to the right, and with the four divisions of the Fifteenth Corps took roads which would enable [him] to come promptly to the exposed left flank. We started on the 15th, but again the rains set in, and the roads, already bad enough, became horrible. On Thursday, the 15th [16th], General Slocum found Hardee's army from Charleston, which had retreated before us from Cheraw, in position across the narrow, swampy neck between Cape Fear and North Rivers, where the road branches off to Goldsborough. There a pretty severe fight occurred, in which General Slocum's troops carried handsomely the advanced line held by a South Carolina brigade, commanded by a Colonel Butler. Its commander, Colonel Rhett, of Fort Sumter notoriety, with one of his staff, had the night before been captured by some of General Kilpatrick's scouts from his very skirmish line. The next morning Hardee was found gone and was pursued through and beyond Averagesborough. General Slocum buried 108 dead rebels, and captured and destroyed 3 guns. Some 80 wounded rebels were left in our hands, and after dressing their wounds we left them in a house attended by a Confederate officer and four privates detailed out of our prisoners and paroled for the purpose. We resumed the march toward Goldsborough. I was with the Left Wing until I supposed all danger was passed, but when General Slocum's head of column was within four miles of Bentonville, after skirmishing as usual with cavalry, he became aware that there was infantry at his front. He deployed a couple of brigades, which, on advancing, sustained a partial repulse but soon rallied, and he formed a line of the two leading divisions, Morgan's and Carlin's, of Jeff. C. Davis' corps. The enemy attacked these with violence but was repulsed. This was in the forenoon of Sunday, the 19th. General Slocum brought forward the two divisions of the Twentieth Corps, and hastily disposed of them for defense, and General Kilpatrick massed his cavalry on the left.

General Joe Johnston had the night before marched his whole army, Bragg, Cheatham, S. D. Lee, Hardee, and all the troops he had drawn from every quarter, determined, as he told his men, to crush one of our corps and then defeat us in detail. He attacked Slocum in position from 3 p. m. of the 19th till dark, but was everywhere repulsed and lost fearfully. At the time I was with the Fifteenth Corps, marching on a road more to the right, but on hearing of Slocum's danger directed that corps toward Cox's Bridge and that night brought Blair's corps over, and on the 20th marched rapidly on Johnston's flank and rear. We struck him about noon and forced him to assume the defensive and to fortify. Yesterday we pushed him hard, and came very near crushing him, the right division of the Seventeenth Corps, Mower's, having broken in to within 100 yards of where Johnston himself was, at the bridge across Mill Creek. Last night he retreated, leaving us in possession of the field, dead and wounded. We have over 2,000 prisoners from this affair and the one at Averasborough, and am satisfied that Johnston's army was so roughly handled yesterday that we could march right on to Raleigh, but we have now been out six weeks, living precariously upon the collections of our foragers, our men "dirty, ragged, and saucy," and we must rest and fix up a little. Our entire losses thus far, killed, wounded, and prisoners, will be covered by 2,500, a great part of which are, as usual, slight wounds. The enemy has lost more than double as many, and we have in prisoners alone full 2,000. I limited the pursuit this morning to Mill Creek, and will forthwith march the army to Goldsborough to rest, reclothe, and get some rations. Our combinations were such that Schofield entered Goldsborough from New Berne, Terry got Cox's Bridge with pontoons laid and a brigade across intrenched, and we whipped Joe Johnston, all on the same day.

After riding over the field of battle to-day near Bentonville, and making the necessary orders, I have ridden down to this place, Cox's Bridge, to see General Terry, and to-morrow shall ride into Goldsborough. I propose to collect there my army proper; shall put General Terry about Faison's Depot and General Schofield about Kinston, partly to protect the road, but more to collect such food and forage as the country affords, until the railroads are repaired leading into Goldsborough. I fear these have not been pushed with the vigor I expected, but I will soon have them both going. I shall proceed forthwith to reorganize the three armies into bodies of 25,000 men each, and will try and be all ready to march to Raleigh or Weldon, as we may determine, by or before April 10. I inclose you a copy of my orders of to-day.* I would like to be more specific but have not the data. We have lost no general officers or no organization. Slocum took three guns at Averasborough, and lost three at the first dash on him at Bentonville. We have all of our wagons and trains in good order.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GOLDSBOROUGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865.*

Major-General SHERMAN,

Commanding:

GENERAL: I continued down the river from Cox's Bridge on the south side, and find that there are two additional pontoon bridges over the Neuse, one at the Neck, and one at the "county bridge." Another

will be finished in an hour. It will be at the railroad bridge. I have sent Major Blake [?], of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, to try to reach Cox's Bridge via Millard, and as soon as General Schofield returns will deliver your message. Colonel Wright, I am informed, is at New Berne, and I will telegraph to him your instructions, but will not go there myself unless I am directed to do so. I think Major Blake [?] will not get through on the north side of the river, as the enemy's pickets are reported beyond Little River. General Schofield has just returned, and will write you by the same messenger that carries this.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
O. M. POE,
Brevet Colonel, &c.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
March 22, 1865.

W. W. WRIGHT, *Chief Engineer Military Railroads:*

General Sherman directs me to say to you that he is very anxious to have the railroad finished to Goldsborough as soon as possible, and to that end he wishes you to work day and night, authorizing you to pay any price that will further the work, and to impress citizens or anybody or anything else. He wished me to see you in person, but I can't go down to where you are at present.

O. M. POE,
Colonel and Chief Engineer.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Brevet Brigadier-General BECKWITH, *New Berne:*

GENERAL: We whipped Johnston yesterday at Bentonville. The army will march for Goldsborough. Be prepared to feed this army, 60,000, at Goldsborough; General Schofield's 20,000 at Kinston; General Terry's 10,000 at Faison's Depot, and General Kilpatrick's 5,000 at Mount Olive Station. The two former will draw up by the New Berne road, and the two latter by the Wilmington road. Show this to General Easton. I will be at Goldsborough to-morrow, and will advise you more fully.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *March 22, 1865.*

FREDERICK LEACH,
Military Railroad Agent, No. 29 Nassau Street, New York:

Report at once the number of locomotives and cars sent to North Carolina. If practicable, let cars be taken to pieces, and running gear and platforms only shipped for the present. Every minute is of the utmost value. Answer.

D. C. MCCALLUM,
Brevet Brigadier-General and General Manager.

[MARCH 22, 1865.—For Sherman's congratulatory order, see Special Field Orders, No. 35, Part I, p. 44.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865—6 a. m.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: General Blair reports that the enemy have left his front, and prisoners report have fallen back about two miles.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: General Schofield reports from Goldsborough, which he occupied with little opposition, so that our campaign is an eminent success. Let Slocum have the roads to-day, and to-morrow move at your leisure to your new position on the right of Goldsborough, facing north, first south of the Neuse and next north. I will promise that no pains or efforts on my part shall be spared to supply your command in the most thorough manner before calling on them for new efforts.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Sherman to inform you that he will go into Goldsborough to-morrow morning by the road south of Neuse River. Major-General Slocum will cross the Neuse River at this point, thus giving you a clear road to Goldsborough, to which place you will move your command and occupy the section of ground covering Goldsborough from the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, on the north around to your right, and to the Neuse River on the east. Major-General Slocum will with his command connect with you on the north of Goldsborough, and extend from the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad around to his left to Little and Neuse Rivers on the west. There are two bridges here and General Schofield has three at Goldsborough.

I am, general, with respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL
FIELD ORDERS, }
No. 68.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND
ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move to-morrow by the most direct road to Grantham's house, near Falling Creek Church. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move to-morrow to the school house near Falling Creek, either by the same route followed by the Left Wing to-day or

by some country roads, avoiding that taken by the Fifteenth Army Corps. In case the Left Wing should use the river road after passing Cox's Bridge General Logan will cross Falling Creek near Grantham's house, and will see that the crossing at that point is put in repair. These headquarters will move with the Seventeenth Army Corps and be established to-morrow at the school-house near Falling Creek.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 21 [22?], 1865.

Captain VAN DYKE,

Asst. Adj. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you that at daylight we took possession of the enemy's line of works in our front and are now pushing skirmishers forward. The rebels are retreating down this road in direction of the river.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,

Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am very anxious to know whether the enemy is making for Smithfield, or attempting to cross the river in order to go after Schofield. In case the enemy makes a bridge-head at Mill Creek have all your artillery brought forward and brought to bear on it. What do the prisoners say?

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,

Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that the pontoon bridge is now being put down over the Neuse River, just below the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. As soon as we arrive there what is known as the temporary depot will be broken up, and everything moved over the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Blair.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adj. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inquire at what hour I shall burn the bridge across Mill Creek and withdraw General Woods' division preparatory to the movement from this point.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general to say, in answer to your note, that General Woods' division may be withdrawn at any time, leaving a strong picket at the bridge, which you may burn toward morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR FALLING CREEK, *March 22, 1865.*

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I received last night from General Howard an order to move the trains this morning to Everetttsville, and am pulling out early this morning. The roads are said to be bad. A brigade of the Twenty-fifth Army Corps are here and will be in our rear. I apprehend no danger. No train has been started for Kinston yet, for the reason that there was no guard for it, and then Colonel Carpenter has not yet arrived with the empty wagons from the front. Everetttsville will be on the way, however, and the empty part of the train can keep directly on.

I am, major, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
G. L. FORT,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that my skirmishers were thrown forward a short time before daylight this a. m., and that they soon ascertained the enemy had withdrawn, as shown in my note this morning.

The Second Brigade, Colonel Catterson commanding, was, by direction of Major-General Logan, very shortly afterward started out toward Bentonville on the Smithfield road, with a view to ascertaining the movements of the rebels. Passing beyond Mill Creek at Bentonville, Colonel Catterson soon met with the rear guard of the rebel column

and at once began skirmishing, continuing as far as Hannah's Creek, where he destroyed the bridge, and in compliance with instructions, returned to Bentonville. In the meantime, in obedience to directions received from the major-general commanding, I had moved the balance of my division up to this place, and I at once placed Colonel Catterson in position on this bank of Mill Creek, covering both the upper and lower bridges, holding the balance of my division in reserve. In compliance with your communication received this afternoon, I moved the remainder of the division back to the works occupied last night, leaving Bentonville at 6 p. m. Colonel Catterson remains with his brigade to destroy the bridge, and will not return to the division until 4 a. m. to-morrow. He had already cut away the lower bridge.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Grantham's House, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 1 p. m. to-day, marching to this point, which was reached at about 6 p. m. Distance, eight miles and a half.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command has remained in camp during the day, in same positions as mentioned in report of yesterday, the 21st instant.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations and movements of my command this instant: Near the hour of 3 a. m. the skirmishers of my division front entered the works of the enemy and pushed forward to the bridge across Hannah's Creek, meeting with but little resistance and picking up a number of prisoners, a list of which will be forwarded through the provost-marshal's department. One brigade was moved into the abandoned works of the enemy as a support to the line of skirmishers, which had gone forward, which position it now occupies. In compliance with instructions, one brigade and my pioneer corps were sent out for repairs upon

the road to be pursued by the corps on the 23d instant. This work is reported to have been accomplished thoroughly, and the connecting road between the Bentonville and the road running nearly parallel therewith and to the right is now in condition to pass the trains of the corps.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
No. 49. } FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

I. The troops composing this division will break camp at 6 a. m. to-morrow, the 23d instant, moving upon Grantham's house, near Falling Creek Church. The order of brigades as follows: First, Second, Third. Two regiments will move in advance and two in rear of trains, the remainder of the troops moving by the side of trains. Trains in same order as heretofore, well closed up. Brigade trains in the order of their respective brigades.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 73. } Near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865.

* * * * *

III. This command will move to-morrow by the river road to Falling Creek. Major-General Mower, commanding First Division, will have the advance and will move at 7 a. m. The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will follow the First Division. The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will follow the Third Division. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will act as rear guard.

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By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,

Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: My skirmishers have just taken possession of Mill Creek bridge. General Hardee left here this morning just before our skirmishers arrived. According to the best information I can gather, he will not make a fight on the west side of Mill Creek unless he is closely pursued. My line of battle is within half a mile of Mill Creek.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, Jr.,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventeenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that my division has been ordered back to camp by Major-General Howard.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,

Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: Your train is reported three miles back in camp. The officer in charge does not know whether to remain there or take the road when the Fourteenth Corps gets out of his way. Please send him such orders as you see proper. We move back on that road to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,

Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that you may withdraw your command into camp and let the men make themselves as comfortable as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,

Commanding Third Division, Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that he desires you to move your troops on the left of the train to-morrow.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
No. 29. } *Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.*

I. The Fourteenth Corps will move to-morrow morning at daylight, crossing the Neuse River at this point, and will proceed direct to Goldsborough by the first road north of the river. General Davis will

send forward a strong pioneer party to corduroy the road on each side of the Neuse. The corps will be encamped on the northwest side of Goldsborough, about a mile distant from the town.

II. The Twentieth Corps will follow the Fourteenth Corps, marching by the same road. The corps will for the present be encamped near the town, connecting with the right of the Fourteenth Corps.

III. The pontoon train will remain at this point for the use of Major-General Terry's command, and will, as soon as possible, proceed to Goldsborough by the road on the south side of the river.

IV. The First Michigan Engineers will accompany the Fourteenth Corps.

V. Both corps will encamp in regular order, two brigades of each division in front and one in reserve. As soon as possible after reaching the permanent camp at Goldsborough, the wagon trains will be brought up to the camps, and arrangements made for taking care of the sick and wounded. The reports of the recent campaign, together with requisitions for all necessary supplies for another campaign, will be sent in without delay.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
March 22, 1865.

Brevet Major-General DAVIS:

GENERAL: General Slocum directs me to say that he is informed by General Logan that the enemy have left some of your wounded at the bridge over Mill Creek.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. MOSELEY,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

General Logan has sent some ambulances there and the general wishes that you send surgeons and attendants.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } No. 25.	HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS, <i>In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C.,</i> <i>March 22, 1865.</i>
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General Morgan will move his division, with all his trains, immediately, upon the direct road running through his lines, for Cox's Bridge. General Carlin will follow General Morgan, and General Baird will follow General Carlin. Corps headquarters, and the reserve artillery, will move with General Morgan.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } No. 26.	HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS, <i>Neuse River, near Cox's Bridge,</i> <i>March 22, 1865.</i>
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General Baird will march to-morrow at daylight, and crossing the pontoon bridge near this point, will take the direct road through Golds-

borough and encamp beyond on ground to be designated to him. General Carlin will follow General Baird and will camp as above. General Morgan will follow General Carlin and will camp as above. Major Houghtaling will report to General Carlin and move under his direction. Left Wing headquarters will be admitted into the column at such point as may be selected. Corps headquarters will move with General Carlin. In moving through Goldsborough each division will be closed compactly, and march with colors flying and bands playing.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Falling Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I have reached this point with my entire command. I could have moved a portion of my command farther, but found the road occupied by the Second Division, Fifteenth Corps. They have passed and are out of the way. I shall push on to Cox's Bridge at daylight in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.]

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Falling Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow to Cox's Bridge, in the same order as to-day, viz, Second Division, Michigan Engineers, Third Division, First Division. The Second Division will start at 6 a. m. The other commands will start in season to keep well closed up to the rear of those that precede them. The trains of each division will follow its division, excepting the Second Division train, which will follow the Michigan Engineers, and will be covered by them. The trains of the Michigan Engineers will follow the regiment. General Jackson will detail one regiment as a rear guard. The artillery will march in rear of the Michigan Engineers.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865—10 a. m.
Major-General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry Forces:

GENERAL: The enemy having retreated precipitately and in disorder from our front, and we not being in a condition as to supplies to follow up, will move on Goldsborough, from which place I have nothing definite. General Terry reports that he has crossed the Neuse to the north

bank, where he has a brigade intrenched. From that position I can take Goldsborough without delay or trouble. I shall go there to-night. General Slocum's wing will also be at or near Cox's, but General Howard will remain till morning. To-morrow morning, unless nothing happens in the interval, move your cavalry slowly and in order by a circuit to the south to Mount Olive Station, on the Wilmington and Goldsborough road, and report to me from there by letter. General Terry on his way up secured two locomotives and a few old cars, and found the road in good order from Northeast Branch, near Wilmington, to Mount Olive, so that I hope to be able to supply you food and forage from that quarter, which will relieve the New Berne road, which for some reason was more damaged by the enemy. Nevertheless continue, as heretofore, to gather all the food and forage of the country you can. I claim, of course, the absolute right to all property lying south of our route of march, and care not how close you pinch the inhabitants, if it be done without pillage of the mere household goods and apparel of women. General Schofield reports this morning from Goldsborough. So our campaign is an eminent success.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 22, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I beg leave to renew the request I made some time ago in a letter to the Adjutant-General that some of the new regiments recently organized in the Western States may be assigned to the Twenty-third Army Corps. The terms of service of some of the old regiments have already expired, and they have been mustered out. Others will have to be mustered out soon. Unless other regiments are added the corps will soon be below the minimum organization in number of regiments.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, N. C., March 22, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

Near a month ago I wrote you a letter requesting that Maj. Gen. J. D. Cox be assigned to the command of the Twenty-third Army Corps and that the remaining troops in this department be organized into a corps under command of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry. Having received no reply, I presume my letter did not reach you, therefore I beg leave to renew the request. But, if it be not deemed advisable to organize a corps for General Terry, I nevertheless respectfully request that Major-General Cox may be assigned to the command of the Twenty-third Corps.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

GOLDSBOROUGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865.*

I approve this. I know that General Cox is a good officer, and General Terry has the best possible reputation. General Schofield will want two corps organizations as quick as possible.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, March 22, 1865—10 a. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Goldsborough:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of yesterday is just received. We whipped all of Joe Johnston's army yesterday, and he retreated in disorder in the night. We are in possession of the field and our skirmishers are after his rear guard two miles north of Mill Creek. We are not in condition as to supplies to follow up, but will gradually draw back to Goldsborough and refit. Push the repairs of railroad back to New Berne. You need not advance to Millard, but secure all the bridges across Little River and lay your pontoons across Neuse near the main road south, unless in the meantime you have used it on Little River.

We have many prisoners and I think we can get along till our wagons get back from Kinston. General Slocum will move to-day to Cox's Bridge, but General Howard will remain till morning, and follow to Goldsborough. I will go to Cox's to-day, and if you have gone to Millard, will communicate with you. If this finds you at Millard draw back to the Little River on the Goldsborough side. I will not move against Raleigh till we are resupplied.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, March 22, 1865—2 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch of this morning to General Terry, informing him of Johnston's retreat, &c.* You are, I presume, by this aware of my occupation of this place, as Colonel Poe informs me he met my messenger at General Terry's. I also learn that Terry has secured his lodgment on the north bank of the river. I am now in doubt whether you wish me to move up to Millard, as before ordered, but presume not, since Johnston has retreated. I am fortifying my position here and rebuilding the bridge over Little River. I will be ready to move at any moment, if you so direct.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

* See Sherman to Terry, 6.30 a. m., p. 964.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, March 22, 1865—3.45 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch of 10 a. m., and congratulate you most heartily upon your success. I find that the dispositions I have made here are in accordance with your wishes. I will do all possible to hurry up the railroad. The last reports are quite favorable. I think we may expect the cars here in four or five days at farthest.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cox's Bridge, March 22, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Army of the Ohio, Goldsborough:

GENERAL: I send Major McCoy in with a letter for General Grant, which I wish you to send with dispatch. I will come in to-morrow and the troops will begin to arrive to-morrow evening and next day. I propose to group this army at Goldsborough north of the Neuse and east of Little River—your present force about Kinston, and General Terry's about Faison's. The cavalry will be posted at Mount Olive—all this for the sake of forage. I hope that the Wilmington road will feed Generals Kilpatrick and Terry.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, March 22, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: In your letter of yesterday you speak of putting me at Kinston and Terry at Faison's, while the main army remains about Goldsborough. Unless you have special reasons for this disposition, I would much prefer to have my troops at the same place while preparing for future operations. I have a good deal to do to get them in proper shape. Will you please let me see you before the order is made?

Yours, very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

We entered this place last night with slight opposition. Are in communication with Sherman and Terry. All is lovely.

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

NEW BERNE, *March 22, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Goldsborough:

The Neuse River bridge will be completed to-morrow, as I informed you when at Kinston. I will go up to the construction party to-morrow and remain with them till we get the road completed to Goldsborough. I think I can get a section through by rail as soon as I could move them by wagons, and I don't know that I could get wagons for that purpose.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Colonel and Chief Engineer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Provisional Corps:

The commanding general directs that you take possession immediately of the upper crossing of the Little River and intrench a bridge-head. The bridge will be reconstructed. Captain Twining, chief engineer, will send a part of the engineer battalion to assist.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Provisional Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to ask you to cause the bridge over Little River nearest to its mouth to be reconstructed at once. General Terry is still at Cox's Bridge, and the main portion of General Sherman's army at Bentonville.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Provisional Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general is informed that the railroad depot at this place has been fired, and desires you to investigate the matter and report the causes, and the incendiary, if any.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. Cox,
Commanding Provisional Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires that you make a detail of 100 men, in charge of a good officer, with pioneer tools, to report to the officer in charge of the pontoon train at the railroad bridge.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 22, 1865.

Col. JAMES W. SAVAGE,
Commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry:

The commanding general directs that you scout all the country adjacent to the Kinston railroad. Find that South Carolina cavalry and whip it. He is assured there is not enough force in that country to whip you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Brigadier-General CARTER, &c.:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you order one regiment of your command to proceed at daylight to-morrow morning to the railroad bridge at Bear Creek, for the purpose of guarding the crossing and getting out timber for the reconstruction of the bridge. If you require more axes than you now have, Brigadier-General Henderson, commanding Third Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, will turn over to your quartermaster two or three dozen new ones.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general-in-chief to write you. The effect of the operations of our skirmishers yesterday and last night has been that the enemy has left his position and retired toward or beyond Mill Creek, and we are at this moment pursuing with skirmishers, but with no intention of going beyond Mill Creek. The general desires you to use all possible expedition in effecting a crossing at Cox's Bridge over Neuse, getting the bridge down at the earliest practicable moment. If the bridge train has not reached you, he wishes that you send couriers to it to hurry up. Communicate these facts

to Major-General Schofield, and that General Sherman expects him to occupy Goldsborough at once. Johnston may attempt sending a force there from Smithfield, and therefore it is important for General Schofield to occupy Goldsborough. Let your dispatch bearer go at a gallop.

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL ARMY CORPS,
Cox's Bridge, March 22, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that the pontoon train ordered to this point arrived last night at about 7 o'clock. A bridge was laid across the river at 12 o'clock; a brigade was immediately moved across and is now intrenching.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding at Cox's Bridge:

GENERAL: I have just been to the front; Johnston retreated last night on Smithfield in some confusion, leaving dead and wounded. We have pursued two miles beyond Mill Creek, but are not in a condition as to supplies to follow up our advantage, which amounts to a substantial victory, and accordingly I have ordered the army to move toward Goldsborough. I can't imagine why I don't hear from General Schofield. Until I know he has Goldsborough I must direct my attention on that point. I commend highly your promptness in securing the crossing at Cox's. If you observe any of the enemy's forces on the north side move across a whole division, and intrench it so as to command all the outlet roads, and so that, if I choose, I can cross General Slocum's wing there, and move out against the railroad between Goldsborough and Smithfield. I will probably come down to-day and stay with you.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.]

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Near Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. Ames, commanding Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, will cause the camps of that portion of his command which are now on the left of the road to Cox's Bridge to be removed to the right of that road immediately, occupying the same field that is now partially occupied by the First Brigade of his division.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Near Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES J. PAINE,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding requests that you will at once send across the pontoon bridge General Bates and Myrick's battery to the position now occupied by General Duncan's brigade. You will please intrench as strongly as possible a sufficient space to contain your whole division.

By order of Major-General Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. C. J. PAINE,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding is informed that a portion of your command is burning buildings and destroying property in front of and within our lines, and has directed me to say that while proper foraging is not prohibited, and indeed absolutely necessary for the support of the command, wanton destruction cannot be permitted, and you will please take measures to put a stop to it immediately.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 22, 1865.
(Received 11.10 a. m. 25th.)

Major-General HALLECK:

GENERAL: The first load of troops belonging to General Sherman's army will start for North Carolina to-morrow, and a second load will start the next day after. There are between 7,000 and 8,000 of Sherman's men here.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., March 22, 1865—10 a. m.
(Received 11.30 a. m. 25th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch of the 12th is received. I have sent two brigades and a half to Wilmington, amounting to over 4,000 men. Orders from General Sherman, dated the 12th at Fayetteville, direct me to send an expedition of 2,500 men to Sumterville and Florence to destroy railroad stock and munitions. A copy of his dispatch is sent you by mail.* From General Grant's order of February 19, I judge that in case of a conflict of orders I must carry out General Sherman's.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

* See Sherman to Foster, p. 804.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. A. PRINCE,
Commanding Camp of Reception, Blair's Landing:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to state that transportation is now arriving from the North for your troops. You are directed to have the troops in readiness to embark at once. The vessels being of large draft, will go up the river as high as possible, and you will have to embark your troops with the aid of the steamer now in your charge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Comdg. Northern District, Dept. of the South, Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding has placed the following indorsement upon your letter of the 15th instant, requesting instructions concerning the disposal of the cotton and other property which you have seized in the city of Charleston and its vicinity:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 22, 1865.

General Hatch's course with regard to the cotton found in Charleston is approved. All cotton will be taken possession of and held for further orders from these headquarters. Instructions with regard to other property about which there is any doubt, whether it be captured, abandoned, or confiscable, will be sent to General Hatch in a few days. Property which, beyond doubt, is either captured or abandoned will be turned over to the Treasury agents, except what may be required for military purposes.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SAVANNAH, March 22, 1865.

His Excellency EDWIN STANTON,
Secretary of War:

HONORABLE SIR: I feel it my duty, as the head of the Catholic Church in Savannah, to inform you of the proceedings ordered by the military authorities against the Catholic cemetery of this city, to give expression to what I deem a legitimate complaint, and to enter a solemn protest in the name of the Catholic community.

Fortifications are now being erected upon the Catholic cemetery. A few days ago I received a communication, written by order of General Gillmore, informing me that he (the general) would make a personal inspection of the locality, and wished me to accompany him to the cemetery. On hearing of the arrival of the general in Savannah I did all I could to find him out, but in vain; and the day after his visit I learned, altogether accidentally, that 300 men were to be the next day on the graveyard to proceed to the work of disinterring the dead and erecting fortifications on their tombs. I thus had no chance to apply to Your Excellency at least for a suspension of the work.

It is my duty now to tell you that the cemetery infringed upon by Federal orders is the property of the Catholic Church, and has been by a solemn benediction devoted to the purpose of burying the dead. I must tell you that cemeteries are, in the views of the Catholic Church, consecrated ground, entitled to the same respect as churches of which they are an appendage. I must also state that there is a sentence of excommunication passed by the Church against those who usurp, invade, and occupy church property, or the property of pious places. Brutal force or infidel ideas may make light of such an ecclesiastical penalty, but there is a Power above which sides with the weak and defenseless and will act in due time, slow or obscure its operation may be.

Military necessity must not be a cloak to usurpation, bigotry, or impropriety. There is an abundance of ground to the right and to the left, in front and the rear of that little graveyard, which covers only three or four acres of ground. Fortifications might have been erected there without any desecration of a revered spot. This case involuntarily reminds me of the doomed vineyard of Naboth. The fortifications erected by the preceding Government are yet extant near the spot. The Confederates did not think it necessary to infringe upon the right of churches and cemeteries, although they had to defend the city against overpowering numbers. It is hard to see how such a military necessity should have arisen so suddenly now that there is no opposing force at all, and that the Confederates, far from being able to attack, evacuate everywhere what they had.

I thought I could not do less than send my humble protest in behalf of the Catholic Church, whose right and privileges I deem to be infringed by this proceeding; in behalf of an outraged community obliged now to carry away where they can the moldering remains of their relatives and friends; in behalf of the Irish-Catholic soldiers, who are obliged to perform the work of hyenas, and in behalf of those who will have to stand in the midst of exhalations arising from opened and mutilated graves,

I have the honor of being, very respectfully, yours,

AUGUSTIN VEROT,

Bishop of Savannah.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 23, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Richmond papers received. The following is from the Dispatch:

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

It is understood in official circles that no fighting has occurred in North Carolina since Sunday, and from all we can learn it appears that Sherman has attempted no advances since his check on that day. General Hardee's victory on the 16th instant was a very important one, and as regards the enemy a most bloody affair. General Johnston telegraphs that in that battle the Confederate loss was 450, while that of the enemy was 3,300. The fight took place at Averasborough, on the Cape Fear River, half way between Raleigh and Fayetteville. General Johnston's defeat of the enemy last Sunday, the 19th instant, occurred at Bentonville, near the Neuse River. By these facts we are informed that Sherman has been pushing toward Raleigh in two columns, one moving due north from Fayetteville, the other northwest from New Berne. General Hardee fought the former, General Johnston the latter.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., March 23, 1865—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HALLECK, Washington:

Have you heard anything from General Cruft's command, which left Nashville on the 14th for New Berne?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: On reaching Goldsborough this morning I found Lieutenant Dunn waiting for me with your letter of March 16 and dispatch of 17th. I wrote you fully from Bentonville [Cox's Bridge] yesterday, and since reaching Goldsborough have learned that my letter was sent punctually down to New Berne, whence it will be dispatched to you. I am very glad to hear that Sheridan did such good service between Richmond and Lynchburg, and hope he will keep the ball moving. I know these raids and dashes disconcert our enemy and discourage him. Slocum's two corps—Fourteenth and Twentieth—are now coming in, and I will dispose them north of Goldsborough, between the Weldon road and Little River. Howard to-day is marching south of the Neuse, and to-morrow will come in and occupy ground north of Goldsborough, and extending from the Weldon railroad to that leading to Kinston. I have ordered all the provisional divisions made up of troops belonging to other corps to be broken up and the men to join their proper regiments and organizations, and have ordered Schofield to guard the railroads back to New Berne and Wilmington, and make up a movable column equal to 25,000 men with which to take the field. He will be my center as in the Atlanta campaign. I don't think I want any more troops other than absentees and recruits to fill up the present regiments, but that I can make up an army of 80,000 men by April 10. I will put Kilpatrick out at Mount Olive Station, on the Wilmington road, and then allow the army some rest. We have sent all our empty wagons under escort, with the proper staff officers, to bring up clothing and provisions. As long as we move we can gather food and forage, but the moment we stop trouble begins. I feel sadly disappointed that our railroads are not done. I don't like to say that there has been any neglect until I make inquiries, but it does seem to me the repairs should have been made and the road properly stocked. I can only hear of one locomotive besides the four old ones on the New Berne road and two damaged locomotives found by Terry on the Wilmington road. I left Easton and Beckwith purposely to make arrangements in anticipation of my arrival, and I have heard from neither, though I suppose them both to be at Morehead City. At all events we have now made a junction of all the armies, and if we can maintain them will in a short time be in position to march against Raleigh, or Gaston, or Weldon, or even Richmond, as you may determine. If I get the troops all well placed, and the supplies working well, I might run up to see you for a day or two before diving again into the bowels of the country. I will make in a very short time accurate reports of our operations for the past two months.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General. Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 23, 1865.

General EASTON,
Kinston Bridge:

I am sending wagons down for the supplies, and shall put a regiment at work at this end. Look to increasing the transportation by water up Neuse River as near Kinston as possible and we can haul from there. This to be in excess of the capacity of the railroad. All my army is now here and coming in.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 23, 1865.

Colonel WRIGHT,
Morehead City:

Report to me the condition of the railroad. Employ at any cost laborers to put both the Wilmington and New Berne branches in order. Hire three gangs at each point, to work each eight hours, calling it a day, so that you may do three days' work in twenty-four hours. My army is now coming in and all will be here to-day and to-morrow. I was much disappointed that this was not already done. Cars must carry into Kinston at once supplies. I will put an engineer regiment at once to work from this end. You can have as many details as you want. Expedition is the thing.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster, Morehead City:

GENERAL: I have made junction of my armies at Goldsborough a few days later than I appointed, but I find neither railroad completed, nor have I a word or sign from you or General Beckwith of the vast stores of supplies I hoped to meet here or hear of. We have sent wagons to Kinston in hopes to get something there, but at all events I should know what has been done and what is being done. I have constantly held out to the officers and men to bear patiently the want of clothing and other necessities, for at Goldsborough awaited us everything. If you can expedite the movement of stores from the sea to the army, do so, and don't stand on expenses. There should always be three details of workers, of eight hours each, making twenty-four hours per day of work on every job, whether building a bridge, unloading vessels, loading cars, or what not. Draw everything you need from Savannah, Port Royal, Charleston, &c., for this emergency, and don't let the delay we had at Savannah recur. Remember that we want the stores and nothing else. We don't want a permanent establishment at Morehead City, at New Berne, or here. Our wagons are our store-houses. I must be off again in twenty days, with wagons full, men reloaded, &c.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

KINSTON, March 23, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,

Asst. Adj. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

DEAR MAJOR: Colonel Treat, chief commissary of subsistence of General Schofield's army, reports subsistence stores for Military Division of the Mississippi to the amount of 400,000 rations, and more arriving daily, which I will forward as fast as wagons arrive. General Beckwith is at Morehead City.

Very truly, yours,

D. REMICK,

Acting Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Mil. Div. of the Miss.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,

Falling Creek, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: The Fifteenth Corps is encamped on Falling Creek, three divisions east and one west of it. The Seventeenth Corps is near Cox's Bridge. We shall be in Goldsborough early to-morrow morning. My headquarters are near Falling Creek, about one mile east of the church.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,

Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,

Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Yours to General Sherman is to hand, giving the position of your command. To-morrow a dispatch bearer will leave here for the States, by whom you can send letters to America, if you wish. There is now at New Berne, in the hands of Colonel Markland, a large mail for your command, which you had better send your army messenger for.

I am, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,

Commanding Army and Department of the Tennessee:

DEAR GENERAL: Colonel Treat, commissary of subsistence, General Schofield's army, reports to me that he will supply the Military Division of the Mississippi with 400,000 rations of subsistence now. That amount is here for General Sherman's army, and more arriving daily. I will load the trains as soon as they arrive. It is 8 a. m. now, and none of our wagons arrived yet. There is also lots of boots, shoes, socks, and other quartermaster's stores here, which Colonel Garber will forward as fast as he can, and our Army of the Tennessee will get their portion, and probably all they want. The railroad will be finished to this point to-day, and they report not much damage done the road from

here to Goldsborough. Colonel Conklin is at New Berne. Any orders you may make I will be happy to receive, as regards stores, &c. Excuse haste.

I have the honor to be, general, very truly, your humble servant,
D. REMICK,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Commissary of Subsistence.

SPECIAL
FIELD ORDERS, }
No. 69.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND
ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek, N. C., March 23, 1865.

I. The command will move to-morrow to Goldsborough. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move upon any route or routes, avoiding the river road, and cross the Neuse River east of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move by the river road and cross the river west of the railroad. The Army of the Tennessee will take up a strong position beyond Goldsborough, covering the town to the east of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, the Fifteenth Army Corps on the right and the Seventeenth Army Corps on the left, and will immediately intrench their positions. In order to afford ample room, about two-thirds of each corps will be placed in the front line. A staff officer from each corps headquarters, to whom the positions will be appointed, will accompany the general commanding to-morrow.

II. The present foraging system is hereby abolished. Every person not entitled to be mounted will be dismounted and all horses and mules turned over to the corps quartermaster. Foraging on the country from Goldsborough will be done by regiments or brigades, with officers present. These will be regularly detailed by corps or division commanders. The engineer regiment and other detachments may send details, never less than two companies, with their officers, and these will attach themselves, when practicable, to regular detailed foraging regiments or brigades, and the officer in charge will always have written authority. The division commander will always make special provisions for his artillery by attaching its foraging details to a regular party.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL ARMY CORPS,

Cox's Bridge, March 22 [23?], 1865—9.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,

Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: I sent, an hour since, two of my staff to find your headquarters and inform you that I had received a report that the enemy were crossing the Neuse about two miles above here. I have since learned that the force consists of two regiments of cavalry. A portion of it has got around onto the road leading from Falling Creek Church to Mount Olive and is threatening my pontoon train, which is now coming up. I am just sending off what little cavalry I have to meet it. I have the impression that a portion of the general train, as well as my

own subsistence wagon, is at Everetttsville. If such be the case it is possible that these people may get around them and do some mischief. Can you tell me where General Kilpatrick is?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,

Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Terry reports that the enemy is crossing the river about two miles above his position, in what force he has not learned. He has sent his cavalry out to ascertain. The general directs that the movement ordered for to-morrow be suspended until you hear from him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Blair.)

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Falling Creek, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I left my camp this morning about 10 o'clock, moving out in rear of General John E. Smith. I marched two of my brigades in rear, and that portion of my column was also covered by the Seventh Illinois Cavalry,* that reported to me before starting. I was not molested to any extent by the rebel cavalry, none making themselves manifest during the day's march. Reaching my present camp at 4 this p. m., I halted and encamped my division in accordance with directions received. I have sent my ambulance and ordnance trains as well as my battery across Falling Creek, encamping them beyond the stream. My headquarters are on the roadside about a quarter of a mile from the bridge. Inclosed please find list of casualties for the 21st and 22d instant.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
At Hall's (Burned) House, N. C., March 23, 1865—11 a. m.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 6.30 this morning, marching to this point, where it is now encamped. My headquarters are at William Hall's house (now burned). Shown on the manuscript maps.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

* Mounted infantry.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Falling Creek Church, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fifteenth Army Corps:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following as the operations of this command during the day: Broke camp near Mill Creek at 7.30 a. m., and following the Fourth Division, marched eleven miles on the Goldsborough road, encamping at 4 p. m. on south side of main road. The First Brigade is in line fronting south, its left connecting with the right of the Fourth Division. The Second Brigade is on the right of the First, in column by regiments. The artillery and trains are in rear of the right of the First Brigade. These headquarters are in rear of the right of First Brigade, on the right of the artillery and about twenty-five yards south of main road.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Neuse River, N. C., March 23, 1865—1.10 p. m.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: My command will encamp this afternoon within two miles of the river, and will all be in before dark. My First Division is now in camp. The only water between Falling Creek and this point was on ground occupied by the Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, or I should not have moved so far.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Railroad Bridge, near Kinston, March 23, 1865—5.30 p. m.

Capt. C. CADLE, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Seventeenth Army Corps:*

I have the honor to report to you that I arrived here with the train at 2 o'clock this p. m. The road I came on is very good, and I will send the train back on the same road loaded with five days' rations for the corps, and one-quarter of clothing at this point, which amounts to 600 hats, 3,000 blouses, 3,000 pants, 600 cavalry pants, 7,500 shirts, 3,000 drawers, 9,300 shoes, 1,800 boots, 4,500 stockings, and a few other articles of no consequence. The above is hardly enough for one division, but Colonel Conklin assures me I can get all the stores I want, consequently I will remain here until I do receive them. The railroad bridge is not finished across the river at this point. Stores will be slow in coming to the front. You will please order all the wagons to be emptied and sent at once to this point. I will see they are loaded with something. I will have all the wagons here loaded before I go to bed to-night, to be ready to start at daylight to-morrow morning. I have just heard that a large mail will be here some time during the night. I will retain wagons and send it as soon as I can.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. M. JOEL,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Seventeenth Army Corps.

P. S.—I just heard Boucher is a lieutenant-colonel.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 74. } *Near Neuse River, N. C., March 23, 1865.*

The command will move to-morrow by the upper pontoon bridge to our camp at Goldsborough. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will have the advance and will move forward at 7 a. m. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow the Fourth Division. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will follow the Third Division. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move across the bridge at 6.30 a. m. and will remain on the other side until the advance comes up, guarding the bridge until relieved. As soon as the corps is across the bridge division commanders will send back teams to the temporary depot below the railroad for such stores as may be there belonging to their commands. They will then withdraw such troops as they may have there and the depot will be broken up.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
No. 66. } SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

This command will be prepared to move forward at 8 a. m. to-morrow, following Fourth Division. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will have the advance. The Fifteenth Ohio Battery, Lieut. L. Bailey commanding, will follow the Second Brigade. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will follow the battery. Trains in usual order.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow to Goldsborough in the following order: Third Division, First Division, Second Division. General Ward will start promptly at 6 a. m., the other commands starting in season to keep closed up to the rear of the preceding command. The artillery will follow the troops of the Third Division. Each division commander will have a sufficient number of troops accompany his trains to protect and assist them, looking well to the left flank, the enemy's cavalry having shown themselves there. General Ward will make all necessary repairs to the roads. Division inspectors or other staff officers will report to Lieutenant-Colonel Asmussen, assistant inspector-general, at these headquarters at 5.30 a. m.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

By orders of Major-General Slocum, commanding Left Wing, all pack animals and wagons of this corps must pass through Goldsborough

before daylight to-morrow morning. In order to do this all pack-mules and wagons will leave this camp at 2 a. m. to-morrow morning, in the same order as designated for the troops, and pass as soon as practicable through the town of Goldsborough. Lieutenant-Colonel Asmussen, assistant inspector-general, will designate the position of the pack-mules and wagons after passing through the town. Each division commander will designate an officer to take charge of his pack-mules and wagons, who will report with his train to Lieutenant-Colonel Asmussen in Goldsborough, at General Slocum's headquarters. The troops will march at 5 a. m., as designated in the order of this afternoon. The corps will march through Goldsborough in review.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

This order is intended to include also all cattle herds and all mounted infantrymen that are not absent from their commands foraging.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. KILPATRICK, *Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: General Howard directs me to inform you that General Terry reports a force of the enemy's cavalry as crossing to this side of the river, about two miles above his headquarters (Cox's Bridge), and seem to be making their way toward the railroad, threatening the trains at the temporary depot. He sends the information in order that you may guard against the possible danger to the train.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 23, 1865.

Lieut. Col. R. B. TREAT, *Kinston, N. C.:*

The commanding general directs that you come forward to this place without delay. Colonel Barriger has been directed to attend to matters at Kinston.

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 23, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. W. BARRIGER,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, New Berne, N. C.:

The commanding general directs that if General Beckwith has not made arrangements for the issuing and forwarding of supplies from Kinston you will attend to it without delay, as Colonel Treat has been ordered to the front. General Sherman is here.

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
FIELD ORDERS, } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 8. } *In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.*

* * * * *

II. All the officers and men belonging to the Provisional Division, Army of the Tennessee, commanded by Brig. Gen. G. S. Greene, and now moving with the army, will at once return to their respective commands. All the field transportation now used by the Provisional Division will be left in charge of the acting chief commissary of the division, to be disposed of under the direction of Lieut. Col. J. F. Boyd, acting chief quartermaster, army in the field.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 38. } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 23, 1865.

I. The Fifteenth Indiana Battery, Capt. A. D. Harvey, and Twenty-third Indiana Battery, Capt. J. H. Myers, now at Wilmington, N. C., will proceed by water without delay to New Berne, N. C., and report to Bvt. Brig. Gen. G. W. Schofield, chief of artillery. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,

Comdg. Second and Third Divisions, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: There is a railroad bridge across a creek about two and a half or three miles east of this place, which the commanding general desires you to place a guard over to prevent it being burned or injured. Please send the guard at once.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
No. 3. } *New Berne, N. C., March 23, 1865.*

* * * * *

V. Col. Charles H. Stewart, Third New York Artillery, commanding defenses of New Berne, will direct the commanding officer U. S. gun-boat Shrapnel to constantly patrol the Neuse River with his gun-boat for the purpose of protecting Government vessels engaged in conveying

supplies to Kinston for the army of General Sherman. Colonel Stewart will see that the boat is well armed and equipped and kept fully stocked with coal.

* * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

SIR: When Major-General Sherman's army reached Fayetteville it had a column of 8,000 or 10,000 refugees clinging to its skirts. General Sherman could carry them no longer and they were all sent down here. His written orders to Brevet Brigadier-General Dodge, chief quartermaster Department of North Carolina, directed that the surplus blacks be sent to the Department of the South, where the arrangements so long and successfully conducted by General Saxton would permit the care and protection that we are utterly unable to afford here. Our planting season is passing and we have not the implements, nor the seeds, nor the superintendents, nor are the lands even yet examined. Could we distribute the colored people, we have not had until now the wagons to carry their rations a mile away from our wharves. Therefore, I send herewith by the Beaufort, which goes to your department after troops, 300 blacks from the column of 6,000 which reached here day before yesterday. They are pressing upon us severely, exhausting our resources and threatening pestilence.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding District.

P. S.—We have no very late news here. Joe Johnston attacked General Sherman's Left Wing at Bentonville, between Fayetteville and Goldsborough, four days ago and was repulsed. General Schofield was at Kinston, and General Terry on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, a short distance from the Neuse, at last advices. Latest from the North March 16.

J. R. H.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 23, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER U. S. TROOPS,
On board Steamer General Sedgwick:

SIR: You will proceed with the troops of Major-General Sherman's army now under your command to Morehead City, N. C., and report in person to the commanding officer at that place for orders or advice before disembarking your troops. The object is to get your troops to General Sherman's army with as little delay as possible.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to commanding officer U. S. troops on board steamer Weyboset.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, March 23, 1865.

Major General DIX, *New York:*

Please inform General Robert Anderson that an order from this Department will be issued this week for him to raise the U. S. flag on Fort Sumter on the 14th of April, the anniversary of the evacuation of that fort by the U. S. forces under his command. Suitable military ceremonies for the occasion will also be ordered, and an address delivered by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, and perhaps other gentlemen. Arrangements will be made to send General Anderson to Charleston, in company with others who may desire to participate. If General Anderson can come to Washington without jeopardy to his health I would be glad to see him.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CONFEDERATE CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

HEADQUARTERS LEWIS' BRIGADE,
Sister's Ferry, January 1, 1865.

Lient. M. G. HUDSON, *Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: In obedience to an order from corps headquarters "to move at once with his (my) command across Savannah River and report, by order, to General Iverson," I came here day before yesterday. I find it impossible to cross without the aid of a steamer on account of the flood of the river. This fact I informed you of in a dispatch sent upon my arrival here, and again on yesterday, and also that the steamer, which you informed me in a communication accompanying the order would be sent here to assist in crossing my command, had not arrived. I have received no answer to either dispatch, nor has the steamer yet arrived. Having neither rations nor forage near this point, and as you regard the order to cross as "has some urgency in it," I move this morning up the river till I do find a practicable crossing. In the absence of any order from you, and despairing of the arrival of the steamer, I do not know what other course to pursue.

Respectfully,

J. H. LEWIS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HARDEEVILLE, *January 1, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Brigadier-General Anderson reports that a reliable scout reports the enemy at least 1,000 strong on Hutchinson's Island, with artillery and horsemen. Also reports them unloading plank on Pennyworth's Island, and a pile of plank some five or six feet high on island. The transports reported leaving Savannah yesterday were going down the river.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

The above sent to General Hardee, and also three transports full of troops went down the Savannah River yesterday, December 31, 1864.

L. McLAWS,

CHARLESTON, *January 2, 1865.*
(Received 12 o'clock.)

General COOPER:

The men of Wheeler's cavalry corps have not been paid, many of them for more than twelve months. I request that you will authorize Mr. Sneed, C. S. depository, now in Charleston, to turn over \$3,000,000 for this purpose.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 2, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

A telegram from the President of the 30th of December* to General Beauregard directs him to proceed to the district west of Augusta and to leave me in command of the district east of Augusta, but is not definite as to whether Augusta will be in his district or mine. I have no desire to enlarge my department, but the connection between Augusta, Branchville, and Charleston is, in a military point of view, so intimate that I consider it necessary that they should be in the same department.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 3, 1865.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Change line to west of Augusta and Millen by line embracing approaches, &c.

J. D.

[JANUARY 2, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1067.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF
No. 1. } SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Charleston, S. C., January 2, 1865.

I. The following will be the organization of the Cavalry Corps commanded by Maj. Gen. J. Wheeler: Iverson's division, consisting of Lewis' and Ferguson's brigades; Humes' division, composed of Dibrell's, Ashby's, and Harrison's brigades; Allen's division, composed of Anderson's, Crews', and Hagan's brigades.

II. Lewis' and Breckinridge's brigades, of Wheeler's corps, will be consolidated. Hannon's cavalry brigade will be broken up, and the Fifty-third Alabama Regiment and Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion, of that brigade, are assigned to Hagan's brigade, and the Thirtieth Georgia Regiment [Battalion] to Anderson's brigade.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

* See Vol. XLIV, p. 1010.

CHARLESTON, *January 2, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

If you are forced to evacuate your line at Pocotaligo you will fall back to the line of the Combahee River, paying especial attention to the guarding of all works and ferries. The order for Chesnut to go to Adams' Run should have been issued through you; it was authorized.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 2, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Send General Chesnut's command to the Fourth Sub-District, Adams' Run. Wheeler has been ordered to relieve Young at Grahamville, and send him to Coosawhatchie. When he arrives order the First South Carolina Militia to report to Brigadier-General Taliaferro.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ON THE PURYSBURG ROAD, AT INTERSECTION
WITH HARDEEVILLE ROAD,
January 2, 1865—11 a. m.

Brigadier-General HUMES,
Commanding, Hardeeville:

GENERAL: Colonel Pointer reports to me that the enemy have halted at Hardee's house, which is about one mile nearer than Cheves' house, and about two miles and half from this point. They are now past the worst of the obstructions in the Hardeeville road. They have probably halted until they have built the bridge over Cheves' canal, near the signal tower, and cleared the road so as to bring up their artillery.

Very respectfully,

R. H. ANDERSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HARDEEVILLE, *January 2, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Scouts report the enemy encamped in heavy force at the signal tower, on the road from Screven's Ferry to Hardeeville, three miles from Screven's Ferry, and that they are still crossing the river and coming to that point.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HARDEEVILLE, *January 2, 1865—12 m.*

Maj. Gen. L. McLAWS:

The enemy are advancing on the road from Cheves' house to Monkey Johns'. They have driven in Brigadier-General Anderson's scouting parties and are now within three-quarters of a mile of his position and still advancing.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HARDEEVILLE, *January 2, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

At the rate the enemy are now driving General Anderson they will reach the point where the railroad crosses the Puryburg and Screven's Ferry road by 1 or 2 p. m.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

POCOTALIGO, *January 2, 1865.*

Brigadier-General HUMES:

I earnestly hope you will seriously impede the progress of the enemy. Resist his advance at every point, and make your dispositions to defend the crossings of New River and Great Swamp at all hazards. Give me as soon as possible some information concerning the numbers of the enemy. Concentrate your forces, and make a determined resistance.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
January 2, 1865—9 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: Scouts report the enemy having advanced their pickets twelve miles from Savannah. Captain Moncrief charged their pickets day before yesterday, but failed to force them back. It is reported that the enemy do not now allow any one to pass in or out of Savannah. No report from Colonel Hawkins or Harris. A special report from scout states that the enemy are no farther north or west than Midway Church. They have been, I think, returned toward Savannah.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. GEORGIA RESERVES AND MIL. DIST. OF GEORGIA,
Macon, Ga., January 2, 1865.

Col. JOHN B. CUMMING,

Commanding Georgia Reserves, Hardeeville, S. C.:

COLONEL: I am instructed by the commanding major-general to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d ultimo, and to say in reply he deeply regrets to hear of the conduct of a portion of your command, manifesting a mutinous spirit, alike unpatriotic and illegal. He can have no sympathy for or with men who are not willing at this trying crisis to serve their country wherever their service is required. The plea that they are required to serve beyond the territory of their State would be unworthy of Yankees, but is disreputable and disgraceful on the part of men who profess to be Southern men, fighting for their liberty. The man who will desert the flag of the Confederacy in the face of the enemy on the pitiful plea that he is serving upon the soil of another and not his own State, is but little, if any, better than the traitor who barter away the liberties of his country for his own

security, or to gratify his mean and selfish ambition. Such deserters deserve, and I trust will receive, the extreme penalty of the law. The general has been gratified to hear of the gallant conduct of your officers and men, and feels assured that under your lead they will never bring dishonor upon their flag. He relies upon your known courage and fidelity to maintain the integrity and discipline of your command. Whenever the public service will justify it he will, in justice to the true men of your command who stand by you and your faithful officers, use every effort to have them returned to their own State.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

LAMAR COBB,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Memorandum.]

The governor of South Carolina (General Bonham) had ordered his South Carolina State troops back from Georgia, where they had been sent to assist in the defense of Savannah. General Hardee had complied with the order, so that the Georgia State troops, of which Col. Cumming's command formed a part, thought it but just that they should not be sent across the Savannah River to assist in the defense of South Carolina soil. General Cobb, to whom they appealed, has given his views on that question.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, January 2, 1865.

General SAMUEL COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:

GENERAL: The possession of Savannah by the enemy separates our line of railroad in Florida from the other lines of the Confederacy. Besides the necessity of getting the supplies of sugar, molasses, pork, and beef out of the State, it may be desired hereafter to remove the iron now on these railroads for use in the central parts of the Confederacy. Of this iron there is over 25,000 tons in the State, besides about 18,000 tons on the Live Oak connection and the Savannah and Gulf road, west of the Altamaha River. The shortest and most obvious route for this is by Quincy to the Chattahoochee River, at Appalaga. This would require the construction of a road twenty-two miles in length, over good ground, with easy grade. This was the contemplated continuation of the road from Quincy, and has been surveyed and the levels run. There are nine miles of iron on the Jacksonville road taken up and now at Lake City, and eight miles of iron on the Florida Railroad, extending from Baldwin toward Fernandina. This would leave but five miles to be provided. This could be taken from the road extending from Tallahassee to Saint Mark's, or from the terminus of the Florida Railroad at Cedar Keys.

I forward these facts for the consideration of the War Department. If the objects should be considered sufficient to warrant the labor and expenditure, I will, as commander of the district, use my best energies to forward the work.

Mr. Howard, the Government attorney, is using all his energies to obtain a decision in the case of the Florida Railroad Company, which will probably terminate favorably to the Government.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MILLER,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Abstract from return of the C. S. Forces in South Carolina, January 2, 1865.

Command.	Effective total.	Total present.	Aggregate.
Jones' division (Taliaferro):			
Rhett's brigade	1,555		
Elliott's brigade	2,459		
Total infantry	4,014		
Light artillery	134		
Cavalry	457		
Total	4,605		
Wright's division:			
Infantry	1,243	1,336	1,437
Light artillery	714	764	800
Cavalry	72	77	80
Total	2,029	2,177	2,317
Trapier's brigade:			
Infantry	130	148	156
Light artillery	85	97	99
Cavalry	34	41	45
Total	249	286	300
Wheeler's Cavalry Division	4,919	6,356	6,944
McLaws' division:			
Fiser's brigade	817	875	941
Cheesnut's brigade	1,233		
Harrison's brigade	2,169	2,612	2,820
Cumming's brigade	468	505	540
Hardy's brigade	855	947	991
Total infantry	5,542	4,939	5,292
Light artillery	976		
Cavalry	512		
Total	7,030	4,939	5,292
Grand total	18,832	13,758	14,853

[JANUARY 3, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1067.]

CHARLESTON, *January 3, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

General Hardee wishes you to send a staff officer to meet Lieutenant-Colonel Woodruff [Woodford], of General Foster's staff, at Port Royal Ferry to-morrow at 2 p. m. January 4, to receive such communications as he may have. General Hardee wishes General Foster informed that his communication was received too late to send one of his own staff. Please acknowledge receipt of this dispatch.

W. D. PICKETT,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HARDEEVILLE, *January 3, 1865—1 p. m.*

Major-General McLAWS:

My information is the enemy came only a short distance this side of Cheves' house yesterday. We are blockading the roads thoroughly to-day.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 3, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (three dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1115.]

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 3, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Reliable scouts report at least two divisions of enemy's infantry on this side the river and steam-boats were constantly crossing from Savannah to Screven's Ferry on yesterday. Scouts also report a pontoon laid from Pennyworth's Island to South Carolina bank at Cheves' place. A scout, who was an overseer and thoroughly acquainted on all the rice plantations, went through the swamps to within half a mile of Cheves' place; saw a close column of infantry half a mile long pass from the landing up Cheves' causeway toward Screven's Ferry road; also a small force of infantry appeared at IZARD's place.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

RICHMOND, *January 4, 1865.*

Lient. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

The President, in response to your telegram of 2d instant, directs that the line of your department limits be changed west of Augusta and Millen, embracing approaches. Please indicate the exact line you desire that a corresponding order may be issued from this office.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 2. }

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, January 4, 1865.

* * * * *

IV. Lieut. Col. T. J. Berry, of the Invalid Corps, is assigned to duty with the Reserves of Georgia, and will report to Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb, commanding.

* * * * *

XXXIV. Paragraph XXXIII, Special Orders, No. 310, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, December 31, 1864, is hereby revoked, and Maj. H. D. Bulkley; commissary of subsistence, is assigned to duty as chief commissary of the troops commanded by Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee, Provisional Army, C. S., and will report accordingly.

* * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 4, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Get all of Chesnut's command from Grahamville as soon as possible.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

CHARLESTON, *January 1, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

General Hardee desires you to remove as soon as possible from Old Pocotaligo, and send to Major Huger the 24-pounder howitzer and the two Blakely guns now there, also the two Wiard rifled guns at Pocotaligo Depot. General Hardee wishes a light-artillery section at Old Pocotaligo instead of the above-mentioned guns.

A. J. GONZALES,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery Department.

CHARLESTON, *January 4, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Major-General Wright, commanding Fourth Sub-District South Carolina, will have charge of the Combahee River from its mouth to the turnpike bridge over the Salkehatchie, not including that bridge.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Frampton Place, January 4, 1865—7 p. m.

[General McLAWS:]

GENERAL: The enemy made a sally on my advanced pickets on the Mackay Point road about 4 p. m. to-day, driving them in on the main picket-line. I went forward with a company about 5 p. m.; found the enemy had withdrawn to their original line (nobody hurt). Scouts report to have seen one regiment about half a mile beyond the Hudson house. Should the enemy advance by way of Mackay Point road I don't think it prudent to make the fight at the Hudson place, as my force is not sufficient to protect the extent of country between the Pocotaligo River and the main Coosawhatchie road. Should I make a fight at the Hudson house I will not be able to support Major Hart-ridge or protect Colonel Harrison's left. Can't you send somebody at once to take charge of the Mackay Point road? and I will attend to Colonel H.'s flank and the approaches to the railroad from Tullifinny.

I am, general, your friend and obedient servant,

JNO. C. FISER,
Colonel, Commanding, &c.

P. S.—I understand that Colonel Anderson was making inquiry in regard to First Georgia Regulars and Twenty-seventh Battalion, and said they had been ordered to Charleston. Can't you checkmate him?

NEAR HARDEEVILLE, S. C., *January 4, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,

Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: I wrote you a few days since,* but as the letter may not reach you I take the opportunity to write again. I suppose you must have been mortified to hear the various complaints of horse-stealing

* See Vol. XLIV, p. 998.

attributed to my command. If all was true it would be very bad, but I am happy to say, after giving the matter as full investigation as the circumstances would permit. I have positive proof that most of the stealing referred to was committed by troops who did not and never did belong to my command, and with whom I never had anything whatever to do. The case of Captain Conway proved to be most flagrant. After arresting him, and upon investigating the matter, I found he did not belong to my command, but was acting under the orders of Maj. Norman W. Smith, chief inspector of transportation, Second District. There are a great number of other cases where men have falsely stated that they belonged to my command. During the past year I have worked very hard, and am happy to state have so far succeeded that no one can sustain the charge of neglect or any other charge against me. I regret to say that one of my commanding officers appears to censure, without showing a willingness to hear or entertain explanations which entirely alter the nature of the allegation. To-day my force is larger than when the campaign commenced last spring, although I have had about 3,000 men killed and wounded, and now have eight regiments detached. I regretted to hear that General Hardee had asked to have General Young promoted to major-general, to take command of Allen's division. General Allen has served with most distinguished gallantry and ability during the entire campaign, winning by his gallantry the confidence of his officers and men. I feel that it would be a mark of great injustice to him and to the command for General Young to be placed over him, particularly as General Allen has kept his command better together than General Young, and has done as good, and I believe better, fighting.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant and friend,
J. WHEELER.

P. S.—I did not mention above that most of the general officers have been assigned to this command, instead of promoting colonels. This was advisable at one time, but now the necessity no longer exists—at least to the extent of going to the Virginia army to get material for major-generals for our commands. General Robertson is to-day as good a division commander as can be found in any of our armies. If our cavalry has not been as well kept together as it should have been, it has been caused in a great measure by reasons beyond the control of myself or my division commanders. I have reorganized my command, breaking up two brigades and increasing the others. I think Sherman will commence his march soon, either in direction of Augusta or Charleston, or he may first march to Branchville.

J. W.

CHARLESTON, *January 4, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Hardeeville, via Grahamville:

Inform me where the advance of the enemy now is, his probable force, and intentions.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[JANUARY 4, 1865.—For Wheeler to Hardee, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1115.]

HEADQUARTERS,

Grahamville, S. C., January 4, 1865—6.30 p. m.

Lieutenant CHAPMAN,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

Your dispatch of this date was received ordering me to report every six hours, but did not state where to report to. I have established a courier-line across to the Robertsville and Puyrsburg road, ten miles from this, to connect with the line upon that road. I have relieved General Young's command, and they leave to-night. Have been out upon the picket-lines to-day. Everything very quiet. I have 200 men at Honey Hill and in front of that; 200 at Bee Creek, and 50 at Dawson's Bluff; 15 on road to Hardeeville, four miles below this; 30 of Colonel Colcock's men on the road to New River bridge. I have no instructions whatever, only to relieve General Young, which I have done. If you fall back upon the Robertsville road, and the enemy advance this way, they will come up in my rear, as Honey Hill is four miles from the depot, Bee Creek is seven, and Dawson's Bluff nine, all fronting toward Broad River. I will in that event have to go in direction of Coosawhatchie or Gillisonville. I would be obliged if you would order a small party to retire up the Grahamville road to give my pickets notice in time to get my pickets in, as they are in good places to be cut off. It is also probable that the enemy may rebuild New River bridge and send a column up the old Charleston and Savannah road, which would place us between them.

I have ordered Colonel Colcock to send details to drive out all the stock as directed. I am very anxious to be advised as to whether any one will retire up the Grahamville road or not, and to what point, &c.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,

Near Hudson's Ferry, January 4, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: Day before yesterday the enemy were foraging with wagons, about a regiment strong, in neighborhood of McLeod's. No report to-day.

Respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

[JANUARY 5, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1067.]

CHARLESTON, January 5, 1865.

General S. COOPER:

In reply to your telegram of 4th I recommend that the boundary line of this department run from Augusta, along the Georgia Railroad, to Warrenton; thence, via Sparta and Milledgeville, following the line of

railroad to the Ocmulgee (but not including Macon), down that river to Coffee County, following the west boundary of Coffee County to the Altamaha, and down that river to the Gulf.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 5, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

The Combahee from its mouth to the turnpike bridge was placed in charge of General Wright, in order that having a shorter line you might concentrate your forces, and if the enemy moved upon Augusta that you might reach Augusta ahead of them.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 5, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

General Hardee directs that you recall the section of J. T. Kana-paux's battery sent to New Bridge. If necessary to send artillery there substitute from your own battalion of artillery.

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 5, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

Send Kirk's squadron to report to General Jones at Charleston. General Young has been directed to turn over some cavalry to you.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COOSAWHATCHIE, *January 5, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

The enemy are shelling to the right and left of my line, but more heavily than usual on my left. We are replying slowly on the right.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

COOSAWHATCHIE, *January 5, 1865.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Enemy has been beating drums in their camp all day, and much more chopping than usual is heard about their picket-lines. They have shelled us more than usual to-day. With the general's consent I will open on them with ten or twelve guns to-morrow morning.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 5, 1865.*

Major-General McLaws:

The telegraph wire is taken down to this point and will be transported to Green Pond to-night. The [*sic*] will remain until further orders. The enemy [moved] up to the crossing of the railroad and the Purysburg road yesterday, but again fell back to the road leading down to Izard's place. A few of the cavalry appeared near Jonesville.

JOS. MANIGAULT,

Assistant Adjutant-General and Signal Officer.

CHARLESTON, *January 5, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Send no more troops across the Savannah at present, but provide such facilities for crossing as may be practicable, that, if it should be necessary, they can be crossed promptly.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 5, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (two dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1116.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, S. C., January 5, 1865—10 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Everything is quiet on our lines this morning. General McLaws has ordered Colonel Colcock to Pocotaligo, General Young to Charleston, leaving only my division to keep up the lines mentioned yesterday. The railroad train is engaged in removing its iron from the road some three or four miles from Hardeeville. I have to send scouts in front of the train to prevent its being captured. A picket could be easily kept in front of the train, from one of the divisions near Hardeeville, to notify it of any movement of the enemy, without causing me to scout fifteen miles from here.

I had to send a picket sixteen miles this morning in direction of New River bridge to relieve the last of Colcock's pickets. I ordered Colonel Colcock to drive out all the stock, &c., and he has left a detail for that purpose.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Grahamville, S. C., January 5, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Lieut. HENRY CHAPMAN,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

Brigadier-General Young and his command left last night; Colonel Colcock with his men this morning. I sent a small detail to assist in

taking up railroad iron and a scout to protect the train whilst below. I will advise the major-general when the road is torn up to the Great Swamp bridge, which will be several days yet, from the progress previously made. Everything quiet on our front.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

Governor A. G. MAGRATH,
Columbia, S. C. :

RICHMOND, VA., *January 5, 1865.*

Your request in regard to Conner's brigade complied with. They are all now en route.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[JANUARY 6, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1067.]

RICHMOND, VA., *January 6, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

(Care Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee, Charleston, S. C.)

On the 23d ultimo you were telegraphed to report to General Beauregard for assignment to duty. As he has gone West you will report to Lieutenant-General Hardee.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

CHARLESTON, *January 6, 1865.*
(Received 7th.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General :

In obedience to an order from General Beauregard Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill had gone to the Army of Tennessee to report for duty before receipt of the order assigning him to duty near Charleston.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 4. }

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, January 6, 1865.

* * * * *

XLVI. The Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida will hereafter include, besides the States of South Carolina and Florida, that portion of Georgia embraced in the following lines: Commencing at Augusta and running along the Georgia Railroad to Warrenton; thence, via Sparta and Milledgeville, following the line of the railroad, to the Ocmulgee River, but not including Macon; down the Ocmulgee to Coffee County, following the western boundary of that county to the Allapaha River, and down that river and the Suwanee to the Gulf.

* * * * *

LI. The leave of absence heretofore granted Brig. Gen. R. S. Ripley, Provisional Army, C. S., is extended ninety days.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

*Batteries of light artillery in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,
January 6, 1865.**

Batteries.	Captains.	Armament.					
		Napoleons.	12-pounder howitzers.	6-pounder bronze.	10-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.	3½-in. Blakely.
Anderson's	R. W. Anderson	4					
Barnwell's	A. S. Barnwell	4					
Beaufort Light Artillery	H. M. Stuart	2	2				
Chatham Light Artillery	John F. Wheaton	4					
Cheanut Light Artillery	F. C. Schulz		4				
Daniell's	Charles Daniell	4					
De Pass	W. L. De Pass	2			2		
Furman Light Artillery	William E. Earle	1	2		1		
German Artillery, Company A	F. W. Wagener	2	2				
German Artillery	W. K. Bachman	4					
Guerard's	John M. Guerard	2	2				
Inglis Light Artillery	William E. Charles			4			
Kilcrease Light Artillery	F. L. Villepigue		2	2			
Lafayette Light Artillery	J. T. Kanapaux		4	2			
Leon Light Artillery	Robert H. Gamble		2				
Louisiana Guard Artillery	Camille E. Girardey	4					2
Marion Light Artillery	Edward L. Parker	4					
Milton Light Artillery, Company A	Joseph L. Dunham	2					
Milton Light Artillery, Company B	Henry F. Abell	2	2				
Orleans Guard Artillery	G. Le Gardeur, jr.	2	2				
Regular (Georgia) Battery	J. A. Maxwell	4					
Santee Light Artillery	Christopher Gaillard			2		2	
Terrell Light Artillery	John W. Brooks	4					
Waccamaw Light Artillery	Mayham Ward		2	2			
Wagner Light Artillery	Charles E. Kanapaux	2	2				
Washington Light Artillery	George H. Walter	2			2		
Colcock's section	Richard Johnson (Lieut.)	2					
Total guns		59	28	10	5	4	2

* From report of this date, signed by Col. A. J. Gonzales, chief of artillery. Note on original says that "Blake's and Hanleiter's batteries have been broken up by order of the lieutenant-general commanding; the siege train in Georgia and South Carolina has been gradually reduced to a section of 20-pounder Parrotts. It is now abolished and turned into infantry. Tiller's company of light artillery [Echols artillery] has likewise been turned into infantry."

† An improvised organization; guns manned by details from Colonel Colcock's command.

Abstract from field return of the division commanded by Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws, including the troops between Grahamville and Combahee River, for January 6, 1865.

Command.	Effective total present.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
Colonel Hardy's brigade	886	995	1,040
Colonel Harrison's brigade	2,685		2,879
Colonel Fiser's brigade	643	702	768
Col. C. J. Colcock's cavalry command	374	396	410
Four light batteries artillery	352	367	382
Grand total	4,940	2,460	5,488

COOSAWHATCHIE, *January 6, 1865.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Brigadier-General Hatch has just sent a communication to this flag-of-truce station that two assistant surgeons of the Confederate Army and one of the Confederate Navy desire to cross into our lines, and stating that if they will be received he will send them over as soon as he receives a reply. I have asked that their names be furnished me, and stated in my communication that as soon as their names are received he will be informed whether or not they will be received.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

COOSAWHATCHIE, *January 6, 1865—1 p. m.*

Major-General McLAWS:

I delayed receiving the medical officers four hours to hear from you. Feeling that I could do so no longer with propriety, I received them. A few moments afterward your telegram was received. I regret it very much, but in the absence of instructions did what I conceived to be best. I was very careful to prevent the enemy's learning anything, and think he got no information except the whereabouts of my picket-line, which I have ordered advanced.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

CHARLESTON, *January 6, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

I have asked Governor Magrath to place 1,500 men at Barnwell, to aid you in case the enemy should move, as I believe he will, in that direction. In the event of a cavalry raid withdraw a portion of your force from the right bank of the Savannah River. You must fight the enemy whenever an opportunity offers.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 6, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Hardeeville via Grahamville:

Lieutenant-General Hardee revokes his order of to-day for you to withdraw a portion of your forces from the Georgia to the South Carolina side of the Savannah, in case of a raid. He did not at the time remember your effective force.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 6, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (four dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, pp. 1116, 1117.]

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 6, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

No signs of the enemy advancing. My pickets were ordered to advance at daylight and dispute their march, but have not reported. Have sent others out. Think it probable a reconnaissance in force, and they have probably stopped to-day to rebuild the river bridge. General Humes has arrived with his division.

G. G. DIBRELL,
Commanding, &c.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, January 6, 1865—1 a. m.

Lieutenant CHAPMAN,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

The enemy in considerable force crossed New River bridge last evening about 4 o'clock, and at dark were at the head of Fording Island road, within sixteen miles of this, and drove my pickets back. I was just ordered by General McLaws to re-enforce the picket there with artillery, but it is too late. My pickets report having seen but little cavalry, and that they moved on rapidly after crossing. The courier says they had not stopped when he left at dark; and they may move right on here, or may go up the Savannah and Charleston road to Coosawhatchie. I will meet them with 100 men, all I can spare, at Glover's, four miles from here on the road to the bridge. Please notify General Humes.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, January 6, 1865—10 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have nothing further to report from the enemy this morning. I have sent Colonel McLemore, with about 100 men and one piece of artillery, to Glover's, on the road from Grahamville to New River bridge, where there is some fortifications this side of a rice plantation. Colonel McLemore thinks it can be flanked, with so small a force to defend it. General McLaws requested last night that I should ask General Wheeler for artillery, stating that what was here had been ordered across the Salkehatchie. As it was so far to yours, I did not ask for it. No order has been received for this yet, and I am getting ready to use it. I have everything saddled up and ready to move as circumstances may occasion, and will send my wagons to Gillisonville when we do move. The enemy made no stop at New River bridge; scouts say they did not see more than fifty cavalry.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,

Grahamville, S. C., January 6, 1865—4 p. m.

Lient. M. G. HUDSON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

Our pickets last evening (or a scout from them) reported to have met the enemy three miles this side of New River bridge, and fell back in front of the enemy to Hennessy's Cross-Roads, six miles this side of the bridge, where they last saw the enemy at 6 o'clock. Our picket after dark retired three miles farther to the junction of the road from this place with the Savannah and Charleston road, and remained all night. At daylight they advanced again and have not reported since. The officer in charge, Lieutenant Tinsley, of Shaw's battalion, is a good officer, and I can't account for his not sending a courier. Colonel McLemore sent a courier to him, who went to where he had remained last night, but no farther. I have since sent another scout, with orders to go until they find the enemy, and to report what they are doing. We have a line of pickets on the Charleston and Savannah road, from where they are up to Dawson's Bluff.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,

Grahamville, S. C., January 6, 1865.

Lient. M. G. HUDSON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

We have pickets at the following places, viz: Dawson's Bluff, which is two miles below Coosawhatchie Station, and the troops at Coosawhatchie join my left there, fifty of the Georgia Reserves being there, and one piece of artillery (the gunners, however, have abandoned it); Bee's Creek and Landing (lower road); spring house; Huger's woods; Euhaw breast-works; Tripp's gate; Boyd's Landing road (enemy are at Boyd's house); White Hall; Bolon's Church; brick-yard and Hazard's Creek; Savannah Hill; Gennesis Landing road; head of Fording Island road; Hardeeville road; making fifty-eight men as advance pickets besides reserve.

The line upon the old Savannah and Charleston road extends upon and near that road from Dawson's Bluff two miles this side of Coosawhatchie, to within six miles of New River bridge. The enemy's gunboats are in front of Bee Creek Landing, and are also at Boyd's Neck, with a small force on land. At Dawson's Bluff the enemy have a battery across the river that dismounted one of our guns the day we came here. There are two guns of artillery at Bee's Creek, one at Honey Hill (near here), and one at Glover's place, four miles below. The Thirteenth Tennessee is at Honey Hill, Fourth at Glover's, Kentucky Brigade at Bee's Creek, fifty of the Fourth at Dawson's Bluff, and Shaw's battalion here. I would like to show Major-General Wheeler the lines to-morrow if he desires to see them.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

I have no pickets at Wilkins', Seabrook's or Bolon's house, nor upon the Okota River. I do not know where Rover Creek is. I located my pickets where General Young's were, after consulting with him and Colonel Colcock.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, January 6, 1865—5 p. m.

Lieut. Col. D. C. JENKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My scouts have just reported that the enemy retired last night to New River bridge. They found their pickets this morning about half a mile this side of the bridge. They say that no wagons or artillery had been along the road, and they could see none; thought a few ambulances had come out; say but few cavalry along, as but little sign of horses was found. The picket is at the head of the Fording Island road to-night, sixteen miles from here.

Very respectfully

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
January 6, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that up to this time I have received no additional intelligence from my picket-lines to what I sent you at 10.15 last night. Reliable scouts have been sent to locate the enemy, determine his strength, &c. I would suggest that if my courier-line is pressed away from Sister's Ferry and I am compelled to fall back, that you send foot scouts across the river, as I shall find it difficult to communicate rapidly with you. No report from west of Ogeechee to-day.

Very respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,
ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

PICKET-POST ON THE RIVER ROAD,
Ebenezer Creek, January 6, 1865—8 a. m.

COLONEL: The scout of Pine Bluff reports that the enemy moved back late yesterday evening. I will have to go to Springfield before I can cross the creek. They were reported to be on both sides of the river yesterday.

W. W. YOUNG,
Lieutenant, Commanding Scout.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
Grahamville, January 6, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: Colonel McLeimore, of General Dibrell's command, who occupied the advance position toward the enemy from four miles from Grahamville, has just arrived here and reports that he sent a scout from his command at daylight to find the enemy, and that up to this time they have not returned. I therefore infer that the enemy are not advancing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

SPRINGFIELD, GA., *January 6, 1865.*

[Col. M. W. HANNON:]

COLONEL: I have delayed dispatching to you until now (12 m.) for the purpose of getting, if possible, definite information as to the enemy's movements in this direction. I have no information of their advance on the right of this post except for forage and wood. In front and on the left (Augusta road) they made their appearance in small force, but scouts say they have returned, and that they, too, were only protecting wagons after forage, &c. Captain Moncrief reports no Yankees on the right, this side of the canal. I have no information relative to a boat on the river. Have sent several scouts in that direction. Will let you know as soon as they are heard from. The scouts that have reported here since my arrival have no idea the enemy is advancing except for purposes above stated. I will know definitely this afternoon and will let you know.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, &c.,

MADISON BELL,
Captain.

P. S.—Captain Moncrief was on the scout himself yesterday, and knew nothing of the dispatch sent you last night. He was in one mile of the canal, which is only nine miles from Savannah. Since writing the above Lieutenant Long has come in from the river road past Ebenezer, and says the enemy was shooting across the creek at that post yesterday, but that they returned last night.

M. BELL,
*Captain.*RICHMOND, VA., *January 7, 1865.*General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Inform me of your position and plans, what re-enforcements you expect from Georgia and South Carolina. Conner's brigade, from Lee's army, is en route to aid you. Have you heard from Hood, as to sending troops to Augusta?

JEFF'N DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 7, 1865.*General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

You will give special attention to the organization of the cavalry of your command, so as to promote discipline and efficiency, recommending specifically any action which you desire to be taken here. Battalions should, as far as consistent, be organized into regiments, and regiments into brigades of proper numerical strength, attention being given to the prospect of recovering absentees.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

CHARLESTON, *January 7, 1865.* (Received 5 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER:

We had information some days ago that the enemy were sending troops in transports down the river from Savannah. Confederate sur-

geons sent in our lines report troops passing Hilton Head in transports en route to Beaufort, said to be the Seventeenth Army Corps. Wheeler reports that the enemy have retreated from the Grahamville front to New River bridge; the force was infantry and not large.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 5. }

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, January 7, 1865.

* * * * *

X. Maj. Jesse J. Bradford, of the Invalid Corps, is assigned to duty with the Reserves of Georgia, and will report to Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb, commanding, &c.

* * * * *

XVIII. Brig. Gen. E. M. Law, Provisional Army, C. S., is hereby relieved from duty with the Army of Northern Virginia.

* * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. —. }

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE WEST,
January 7, 1865.

Post commandants, provost-marshals, and enrolling officers on duty in the military division will not permit to pass within its limits officers and men on leave or furlough, or scouting parties of Wheeler's cavalry, unless their leave or furlough detailing the scouting parties is approved by Major-General Wheeler or his commanding officer. Such parties will be arrested and returned to their commands, and the names of subordinate commanders granting leaves or furloughs or ordering such details will be forwarded to these headquarters at Montgomery, Ala.

By command of General Beauregard:

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 7, 1865.*

Major-General McLaws:

The refusal to receive the flag of truce at Coosawhatchie is approved. Flags will be received as heretofore at Port Royal Ferry.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 7, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, relating to operations, see Part I, p. 1117.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Grahamville, January 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. L. McLAWS,
Commanding, &c., Pocotaligo:

GENERAL: If the Seventeenth Corps advances upon you you will, of course, have to fall back. Will you please advise me soon as you make any move from the Coosawhatchie. In that event I [will have] to extend my line [to] the Combahee; but that will necessitate the withdrawing of my line also, which will then extend, say, from McPhersonville to Robertsville. Do you think this will answer? If no more trains come up I will have to supply my command from the country. This will cause us to suffer very much; but, of course, we shall have to do the best we can.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 7, 1865.*

Surgeon-General GIBBES,
Charleston, S. C.:

Your dispatch received. My love for your State is equal to the hate our enemy bears it. The subject of your request has my constant care. You know what has been done. If it be possible to do more, the will is not wanting.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 8, 1865—12 m.*

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:

Your cipher telegram of the 7th received to-day. I am holding the line of railroad from the Savannah River to this place. The principal force on this line is at Pocotaligo, under Major-General McLaws, who when compelled to retire will take up the line of the Combahee, which I am actively engaged in fortifying. Major-General Wright's division is stationed in the Fourth Sub-District principally to protect the approaches from John's Island to the lower Combahee, inclusive. Brigadier-General Taliaferro's division is distributed in the Second and Third Sub-Districts, principally on James and Sullivan's Islands and in Christ Church Parish. Conner's brigade when it arrives will be stationed near Charleston, whence it can re-enforce the Second, Third, or Fourth Sub-Districts. I have armed the heavy artillery as infantry, brigaded the entire command, and hope soon to provide it with field transportation. Of the force above mentioned, McLaws' is the only command I regard as movable. The remainder is needed for the defense of Charleston. I am acting strictly on the defensive, and unless heavily re-enforced must continue to do so. In case of a movement upon Charleston similar to that on Savannah, a movable force of 15,000 additional men operating outside of the city defenses will be required to oppose the enemy. If this force cannot be furnished, 5,000 regular troops will still be required for the present defensive line. Governor Magrath promises to put in the field 5,000 militia, but I much question his ability to do so. I have requested him to place 1,500 militia at Barnwell, and a like number at Branchville, which with Wheeler's cavalry will make the railroad from Augusta to Branchville secure. I have no

reason to expect re-enforcements from Georgia other than Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith's force of militia, now at Augusta, which is rapidly diminishing by desertion, and numbers less than 1,500 muskets. I have no information whatever from Hood, and have no reason to expect re-enforcements from that quarter. My effective force in Carolina, exclusive of Conner's brigade, is as follows: 3,500 regular infantry, 3,000 reserves, 1,100 militia, 3,100 heavy artillerists, 1,700 light artillery, and 6,100 cavalry.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Charleston, S. C., January 8, 1865.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

Wheeler's cavalry has been reorganized under my direct supervision, and now consists of three divisions and eight brigades. It is a well organized and efficient body. The reports of its disorganization and demoralization are without foundation, and the depredations ascribed to his command can generally be traced to bands of marauders claiming to belong to it. I know of nothing at present to add to its effectiveness except the promotion of Brigadier-General Allen to major-general, and of Colonel Dibrell to brigadier-general, for which recommendations have been sent on.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 8, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

General D. H. Hill has probably already reported for duty with the Army of Tennessee.

If I might be allowed the suggestion, I would say that since the loss of general officers in that army he is probably more needed there than here.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S COMMAND,
McKenzie's, January 8, 1865.

Lient. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that in accordance with orders from the major-general commanding and General Anderson, I carried the dispatches yesterday from the major-general commanding and delivered them to Captain Audenried, U. S. Army, bearer of the Federal flag of truce. Captain Audenried had left Hardeeville before I arrived there, and I followed him on the road to Screven's Ferry until I reached the advance picket-post of the enemy, about one mile this side of Cheves' house and about five miles from Screven's Ferry. There were no indications of any large bodies of men having moved beyond their present position. The trees felled by us remain undisturbed, and certainly no wagons or artillery have come nearer than Mrs. Fitz's house (about two miles). The bridge over New River has

not been disturbed or rebuilt. The picket was from an Illinois regiment in Dustin's brigade, Ward's division, Twentieth Army Corps, or, as they expressed it, First [Second] Brigade, Third Division, Twentieth Corps. I inferred from all I saw, and all I could glean from the conversations of officers and men, that there was certainly one brigade, and probably two brigades, of infantry on this bank of Savannah River. There was nothing to show that cavalry had at any time been on this bank. I think they have the position at Cheves' house fortified. Captain Audenried said that General Sherman was anxious to commence sending out the citizens Monday (to-morrow) or at a very early day. I inclose herewith receipt of Captain Audenried for the sterling exchange sent Mrs. Cheves.

I have the honor to be, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. GORDON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 9, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Have you cavalry around Savannah to prevent the enemy from foraging on the surrounding country? If so, have you a good commander for it? If not, do circumstances permit you to employ a small but adequate force for that purpose?

JEFF'N DAVIS.

MONTGOMERY, *January 9, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

Supposing General Hill reported for general assignment, he was ordered to report to General Hood, who has lost many general officers killed, wounded, or captured. General Hill is now here. Shall he return to Charleston?

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHARLESTON, *January 10, 1865.*
(Received 14th.)

General S. COOPER:

Your telegram of the 9th received. I telegraphed you on the 8th that Major-General Hill had been sent by General Beauregard to the Army of Tennessee. Brigadier-General Ripley was also ordered by General Beauregard to report for duty to General Hood.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER,
DEPT. OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Charleston, S. C., January 10, 1865.

Maj. WILLIAM H. ECHOLS,
Chief Engineer, District of South Carolina:

MAJOR. The defense of the Stono against a crossing from John's Island is a matter of much solicitude. Will you please call for an

immediate report from the officer in charge of the force engaged on this work and its progress? Besides this, I wish you to make a thorough personal inspection of the defense and direct any other work not now begun that in your judgment may be required. The trees on John's Island within 1,000 yards of our batteries, or any that would in any way conceal the movements of the enemy that can be removed with a reasonable amount of labor, should be felled. Field guns should be almost universally in embrasure, the improved ordnance of the present day in the hands of sharpshooters making barbette guns useless. Two deep embrasures for field pieces should be cut immediately on each flank of Fort Trenholm. You will please order this at once, and also have a proper abatis placed in front of the work.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

JOHN J. CLARKE,
Colonel and Chief Engineer.

CHARLESTON, *January 10, 1865.*

(Received 11th.)

Major-General WHEELER:

The following telegram received from Major-General Cobb:

Scouts report enemy 1,000 or 2,000 strong, with wagons and artillery, on Ochoopee River, marching in direction of Southwestern Georgia.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. MILITARY DIV. OF THE WEST,
No. 5. } *January 10, 1865.*

I. In pursuance of a telegram from Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Richmond, Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill and personal staff will proceed to Charleston and report to Lieutenant-General Hardee. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation for their horses.

By command of General Beauregard:

GEO. WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SELMA, ALA., *January 11, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

General S. COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill has been ordered to report to Lieutenant-General Hardee.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

RICHMOND, *January 11, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,

Montgomery, Ala.:

Your assignment of Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill is approved.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 11, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE, *Charleston, S. C. :*

Yours of the 8th instant received. Your plan seems to me judicious and I hope may, with Divine favor, prove successful. General Beauregard is probably by this time at Hood's headquarters, and if troops have not already started to aid you he will, I am assured, make every exertion to re-enforce you from that army as rapidly as possible. You must use all means to obtain men from Georgia, either reserves, militia, or recruits. General Cobb can more effectually aid you by having his headquarters at Augusta. If your relations to Governor Brown enable you to influence him that is the means to be employed.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[JANUARY 11, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1067.]

SELMA, ALA., *January 11, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE, *Charleston, S. C. :*

Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill has been ordered to report to you. If not otherwise needed he might be assigned to command of the District of Augusta. There is a large amount of cotton in Augusta. It should be properly disposed of.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS,)
No. 8.)

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., January 11, 1865.

* * * * *

XI. Ten of the eleven companies composing the organization known in the Army of Tennessee as the Fourth Georgia Cavalry (formed upon the basis of the Twenty-third Georgia Battalion) will constitute the Twelfth Regiment Georgia Cavalry, to take effect from the 30th of January, 1863, the date of the organization effected under the orders of General Bragg. The eleventh company will be the subject of assignment to some Georgia battalion or other organization to be designated hereafter.

* * * * *

JNO. W. RIELY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS,)
No. 6.)

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,
Charleston, S. C., January 11, 1865.

* * * * *

II. On the arrival of Brigadier-General Browne's brigade in Augusta the operatives of the Athens factory, Georgia and Princeton factories will report to Maj. G. W. Cunningham for return to their establishments.

* * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,
 No. 9. } Charleston, S. C., January 11, 1865.

II. Maj. Gen. Sam. Jones, having been assigned to the command of the District of Florida, by orders from the War Department, is relieved from duty in the District of South Carolina, and will proceed to take charge of his new command.

* * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GRAHAMVILLE, January 11, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: Among other things to which I feel it my duty to call your attention is the following: In recommending officers for promotion to rank of major-general, I did not recommend Brigadier-General Ferguson, who is the third ranking brigadier-general of my command, because I thought others were much more competent, and, in fact, I felt certain he was not competent. General Ferguson once served upon General Beauregard's staff, and I am inclined to think from what General Beauregard's staff say that efforts are being made to have him promoted. General Ferguson was transferred to my command because General Jackson could not get along with him. Last spring General Ferguson had a brigade of over 1,500 men, and was then serving under General Jackson. About two months since he reported to me. His first report showed that his brigade had dwindled down to 547 effective total, while he had over 3,400 names on his rolls. I have succeeded in bettering its condition somewhat, and if he stays with me I will make it full and keep it full. General Ferguson had another brigade under his command last fall, which went almost to pieces while under his command. This officer General Beauregard's staff hold up as a model of a cavalry officer, while if General Beauregard's orders were strictly carried out he would be dropped from the rolls of the army for inefficiency. I will here state that I made strong objections to having General Ferguson transferred to my command, as he was always abusing General Jackson, and I felt he would adopt the same course with me. I feared this particularly, as it is the almost universal custom of neglectful officers to decry their commanders. I gave General Jackson another good brigade in exchange. I am happy to state that the charges against my command for depredations are untrue, and I have proofs in my possession to show that they are untrue. I have made two written applications to General Hardee to appoint a board of officers to investigate the charges, but as yet the board has not been appointed. Colonel Roman, of General Beauregard's staff, is now inspecting my command. It presents a very creditable appearance, considering the rapid marches and privations it has endured. Generals Allen and Humes have been doing their duty well during the year, and I have recommended them as most worthy of promotion. As stated in a former letter, my command is stronger now than it was before the campaign commenced last May.

With highest respect, your obedient servant and friend,

J. WHEELER.

BULLOCH COUNTY, GA., *January 11, 1865—5 p. m.*

SIR: The enemy have all left Tatnall and have gone back to Savannah. They made two attempts to cross the Cannouchee and failed. From the best information the enemy has all gone to Savannah and intends to make the Ogeechee their picket-line. There is no enemy near here. No other news of importance.

J. W. McCAUS,
Lieutenant, Commanding Scouts.

RICHMOND, *January 11, 1865.*

General HOWELL COBB,
Macon, Ga.:

It is thought best that your headquarters should be at Augusta, heretofore the place at which the conscript service has been administered, and whence the commandant of conscripts has been withdrawn for service in the field. As the point in Georgia now most immediately threatened, your presence and command may serve to collect there a larger number of the reserve forces. You will therefore establish yourself there with all practicable dispatch.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, January 11, 1865.

Lient. Col. T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: During the time of Sherman's advance, the line of communication with department headquarters being cut, I thought it proper to send my communications directly to Richmond. I herewith inclose copies of such communications for the information of the lieutenant-general commanding, with the hope that the course taken will meet his approbation.

I have the honor to report that the Live Oak connection has been delayed by the sinking of the temporary work across the Suwanee, but that the bridge is completed, and the road will be finished in twenty days. I have continued the construction of this road in order to save the iron and rolling-stock of the Savannah, Albany and Gulf road to the Confederacy. You will find an explanation of the design in the inclosed letter to General Cooper.*

At a meeting of the directory of the Savannah, Albany and Gulf road they directed the president to take up this road from the Altamaha River to the Live Oak connection, at Lawton, and the laying of this iron from Thomasville to Bainbridge or to Albany. From Thomasville to Bainbridge the road bed, thirty-seven miles long, is graded, and the iron could be laid in three months. The Live Oak road is too near the sea-board, however, to be safe; and if the Florida roads are to be connected with this line a new road should be built from Monticello to Thomasville, twenty-one miles. You will see, also, from the letter to General Cooper, the proposed extension from Quincy to Appalaga, on the Chattahoochee. This last has been laid before the Secretary of War, by Mr. Hilton, and is also approved by the governor of Florida.

* See January 2, p. 983.

If any of these plans are to be carried out prompt action is necessary, and with a view to this I am hurrying the conscription of the negroes for the engineer corps of this State. Under the late legislature we shall probably get 1,000. In order to establish telegraph communication from here to the forces on the Altamaha River I shall send Lieutenant-Colonel Beard to get the wire necessary, if possible, beyond that river. Twenty-five miles of wire is necessary to make the connection. In the meantime I have established a line of couriers from Madison to Quitman.

My information is that the enemy do not amount to more than 700 at Jacksonville, mostly blacks, and half as many more at Saint Augustine. They do not come out on this side of the Saint John's River. Two scouts between Jacksonville and Saint Augustine captured Colonel Noble, Seventeenth Connecticut Infantry, commanding at Saint Augustine, and a Lieutenant Rice, assistant provost-marshal at Jacksonville. The prisoners were forwarded to Columbus. During my command here Tallahassee and Marianna have been fortified, and such other fortifications as are considered necessary are in course of construction. As our line of supplies is now by the Chattahoochee, I have put 100 hands on the road from Chattahoochee to Quincy to put it in order. I am using my best efforts to discipline the troops of this command, but the extent of territory and the large amount of guard duty and coast to be defended, prevent the concentration so necessary to discipline. In order to effect this concentration I have called on His Excellency Governor Milton for militia to do guard duty at posts.

With the hope that these measures will be found judicious by the lieutenant-general commanding, I am, colonel, &c.,

W. MILLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 9. } *Richmond, January 12, 1865.*

VIII. Capt. J. H. Pearce, assistant adjutant-general, is hereby relieved from duty with General Henry A. Wise's brigade, and is assigned to duty with R. H. Anderson's cavalry brigade, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. MILITARY DIV. OF THE WEST,
No. —. }

Montgomery, January 12, 1865.

I. In pursuance to a telegram from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Richmond, Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill will repair to Charleston and report to Lieutenant-General Hardee for assignment.

By command of General Beauregard:

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 12, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Have you made preparations that will enable you to cross promptly a portion of your command into Georgia, if necessary?

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

JANUARY 12, 1865.

General W. J. HARDEE:

The report from General Cobb and all the other sensational reports which appear to prevail in Georgia, regarding enemy, are incorrect. My dispositions are such that enemy in Savannah cannot make any inland movement without my knowledge.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 10. } *Richmond, January 13, 1865.*

I. Col. C. T. Goode, of the Invalid Corps, is assigned to duty with the Reserves of Georgia, and will report to Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb, commanding, &c., Macon, Ga.

* * * * *
By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Grahamville, January 13, 1865.

Commanding officers in procuring forage in this section will see that five bushels corn for each person dependent upon it is left each family, and that no milch cows are taken.

By order of Major-General Wheeler:

M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, S. C., January 13, 1865.

Col. J. WARREN GRIGSBY,
Chief of Staff, Wheeler's Corps:

Major-General Wheeler, from his indorsement, I think is laboring under a misapprehension as to the guns alluded to by Captain Kanapaux. They are two 32-pounder columbiads at Dawson's Bluff, one or one mile and a half above Colonel Breckinridge's fortifications, and after the enemy dismounted one of them Captain Kanapaux sent a detachment from his battery at Bee Creek to move the other gun in case the enemy attempted to land at Dawson's Bluff.

Captain Kanapaux is commanding a battery of light artillery, one section of which is at Bee Creek and the other at Honey Hill, and three guns are absolutely necessary at each place. The heavy guns can be removed after night, but it will be hard to do it. One of the carriages

was broken by the enemy's battery, which is in good range of the works. I will await further orders before sending any order to Captain Kana-paux or Colonel Breckinridge.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Commanding, &c.

CAMP FIRST GEORGIA REGULARS,
January 13, 1865.

Capt. THOMAS BURDELL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Fiser's Brigade :

CAPTAIN: I have the honor, in obedience to a verbal order received yesterday from Major-General McLaws, to make the following report of a reconnaissance made by myself for a line of intrenchment:

The major-general designated two points to me, one to be made the right, the other the left of the line. Between these two points I find that two lines can be obtained: One, about a mile and a quarter in length, runs through the field in front of the Frampton house; on reaching the road crossing the swamp near the Martin house it deflects to a course nearly parallel to the railroad, running in its present course through an old field and following the crest of the hill until it enters the woods again, which it does about half a mile from the point designated by General McLaws as the right of the line. This line I consider, though the longest, as the best adapted for defense; the other line is shorter by a good deal, not being more than three-quarters of a mile in length, but it is very objectionable on account of the very heavy amount of timber to be felled. To perform the work on either line would require about 200 spades, 30 axes, and a force of 500 men. I have to add that as yet I have received no order from brigade or division headquarters assigning me to engineer duty. If I am continued in this service I would respectfully ask that such an order be issued.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. S. WYLLY.

[JANUARY 14, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1068.]

WILMINGTON, *January 14, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston :

The enemy has resumed his attack on Fort Fisher by large fleet and land force. My troops, now in your department, are much needed—Fiftieth Regiment and Tenth Battalion North Carolina Troops and Shober's regiment of Reserves. The latter cannot be legally kept out of its State after the 20th of January.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHARLESTON, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

If possible, hold on to your position at Pocotaligo. General Walker at the same position defeated a large force with 200 or 300 men. I have

ordered Conner's brigade to re-enforce you. I shall order Wheeler to attack the enemy in flank. I shall leave here in the morning to join you.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 11, 1865.*

Capt. P. N. PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of inspection of batteries:

Battery Geddes.—Earth-work revetted; in fine order; has openings for five guns; but two mounted, one 32, rifled and banded, and one 24, smooth-bore. The 32-pounder has no ammunition and no implements. The 24-pounder has twenty-three round shot, nine canister, and two stand of grape; a new sponge is wanted. The magazine is quite dry and in good order, except that the outer door is down. It is manned by a detachment of fourteen men and one lieutenant. The lieutenant now in command is sick and goes to hospital to-day. The men are in good health, well clad, armed with rifles, have proper accouterments, and about thirty-five rounds of cartridges.

Battery Hayne.—Earth-work revetted; in tolerable order; has three guns mounted, one 32-pounder, rifled and banded, without implements or ammunition; two 24-pounders, rifled, eighty-eight shell, eighteen grape, twenty canister. Have rammers, sponges, and handspikes, but sponges worn out. Smaller implements, such as pouches, thumb-stalls, &c., are wanting. Garrison, fourteen men, armed with rifles, accouterments complete, and forty rounds of ammunition.

Battery Wilkes.—Earth-work revetted, with two guns mounted in main work, having also flank works for one gun each. One of the guns is a 32-pounder, rifled and banded. It is without implements or ammunition. The other is a 24-pounder, smooth-bore, with fifty round shot, twenty stand of grape, and forty-nine canister. The friction-primers are so large that they cannot be used. There are no implements except handspikes and rammer. The hub of one wheel is rotten. Magazine in good order. Garrison consists of eight men and one corporal.

Overflow Battery, No. 1.—Earth-work without embrasures or traverses. Has two guns mounted, one 32-pounder, smooth-bore, and one 24-pounder, smooth; have 140 cartridges; no projectiles for the 32-pounder; twelve shells for the 24-pounder. Have rammers and handspikes, but no small implements, such as pouches, thumb stalls, &c. Garrison, one sergeant, one corporal, and ten men.

Overflow Battery, No. 2.—Earth-work without embrasures and traverses. Has three guns, two 24-pounders and one 12-pounder, all smooth-bore; 208 cartridges for 24-pounder, 58 cartridges for 12-pounder, 30 shell, 114 grape, 124 canister for 24-pounder, and 79 shot, 53 canister, 50 shot for 12-pounder. There are a few handspikes, rammers, and a sponge, but all other implements are wanting. Garrison consists of fifteen men.

Battery Maywood.—Earth-work without embrasures or traverses. The platforms (two) are partially destroyed, otherwise the work is in good order. The wood opposite the battery is not more than 150 yards distant, consisting of swamp trees and pines, and would enable the enemy's marksmen to silence the battery. No garrison or guns.

Battery Gaillard.—Earth-work without embrasures or traverses. In good order. The wood to the left and front of this work also is too near. It is without garrison or guns.

Battery Miles.—Earth-work without embrasures or traverses. It is in good order. Wood to the right and front is not more than 200 yards distant. No garrison and no guns.

Battery Toomer.—Earth-work without embrasures or traverses. It is in good order but without garrison or guns.

Battery Bull.—Earth-work in good order, without embrasures or traverses. This is quite a formidable work, but there is a small pine wood to the left and front, less than 100 yards distant. The wood in front also is rather too near. There is no garrison and no guns. There is swamp covered with water along the whole of this line, but most of the water could be let off by the enemy by cutting the cross dams; still the grounds would be boggy and difficult. I would suggest that the wood in front all these batteries, from Battery Maywood to Battery Bull, be immediately cut down, and should time permit that rifle pits be dug between the batteries.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,
A. BURNET RHETT,
Major and Insp. of Arty., 2d and 3d Sub-Military Dists., S. C.

COOSAWHATCHIE, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Enemy have negro pickets in my front this morning where they have heretofore put white men.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

GREEN POND, *January 14, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

What are the enemy's movements to-day? Have just returned from Combalce Ferry. The enemy advanced in considerable force of infantry about noon to within two miles and a half of the bridge; they have now returned to their former position near Garden's Corners. Answer at Adams' Run.

A. R. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HORSPA BRIDGE, *January 14, 1865—6.15 a. m.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: As I have only 150 men to support my artillery and I may have to fall back, I would suggest that a battery of artillery be placed in the work on the Union road near Dr. J. Gregorie's place. In case it should become necessary for you to evacuate Pocotaligo and fall back, do inform me in time for me to retire by a lower road.

Respectfully,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

HORSPA BRIDGE, *January 14, 1865—9.30 a. m.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

We have checked thus far skirmishing. Now his advance has appeared in front of the bridge. Take care of our rear and we will try to hold the position as long as the general wishes.

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

HORSPA BRIDGE, *January 14, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Lieutenant Roberds, whom I stationed at Page's Point, reports the enemy still crossing at Port Royal Ferry on a pontoon bridge, with wagons and artillery, crossing in heavy numbers. There is no doubt that they have been continuously crossing since last night. The enemy are making a serious demonstration on my left about Sheldon Church, where I have but two small cavalry companies to meet them, and the position there is weak. We then drove back their cavalry, but their infantry is now advancing in heavy force. If they pass Sheldon Church I will have to evacuate this position. There is sharp musketry firing here and there. They have not opened with artillery as yet.

Respectfully,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

The obstructions on the Union road have been removed by Lieutenant Johnson's section heavy artillery, Third South Carolina Cavalry.

JUNCTION OF STONY CREEK AND JACKSON ROADS,
January 14, 1865—3.15 p. m.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy having flanked me by the Sheldon road and driven in my cavalry there, I am falling back to Old Pocotaligo. I could not hold the position at Stony Creek because the enemy were on the other road also.

Respectfully,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Pocotaligo, January 14, 1865.

Colonel COLCOCK:

I have ordered all detachments to report to you, and have been trying all day to get General Wheeler to relieve the cavalry upon the line between Coosawhatchie and Dawson's Bluff, but for some reason he does not answer. Meet the flank movement with an advance or threaten it, and it may counteract it.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

Colonel Harrison reports that the enemy have negro pickets in front of their line where there were white men before. Perhaps the white troops have been withdrawn to make this present attack. If so, you have but Foster's people against you, and probably not a large force.

I have just been notified by General Wheeler that your three companies over there have been ordered to be relieved. Hope they will come soon.

A full battery and a strong regiment of infantry are on your left on the Union road. I will send word to the officer there to make a demonstration.

GRAHAMVILLE, S. C., *January 14, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,

Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: If it is practicable I think it would be a good plan for the Government to send a proper officer, one who is unprejudiced, to inspect my command. His report would show to the Government its true condition and correct a great many wrong impressions.

With highest respect, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER.

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,

Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: I have just been informed that the War Department are about to promote General Ferguson to major-general to command one of my divisions. It is my duty to state that I think this would be very injurious to my command. General Ferguson belonged to General Jackson's command last summer, and according to General Jackson's statement was very inefficient. General Jackson tried to make him do his duty properly, and had him tried before a court-martial for neglect of duty. As General Jackson could not get along with him, it was proposed to transfer him to my command in place of one of my brigades. This I opposed, as I had suffered sufficiently from such characters, but at General Hood's solicitation I finally gave my consent, on condition that Ferguson was not to interfere with my organization. I consequently have kept him detached as much as possible, but have become convinced that my command is very little strengthened by his being with it. In fact, I would have no objection to his leaving with his entire brigade. To promote him, instead of Generals Humes and Allen, my present division commanders, would have a worse effect upon my command than anything I can now think of. It would be rewarding bad conduct and unsoldierly spirit. General Ferguson had, I am informed, 1,700 effective men when he arrived at Rome last year, and when he reported to me his report showed 547 effective men and 3,400 on the rolls, showing a want of care which no command under my orders ever yet exhibited. I have taken measures to get and keep his men in ranks, which is partially successful, and will, I think, finally work good results.

My associations with General Ferguson have always been of the most pleasant character. I mention this to assure you that there is nothing personal in this matter. What is stated in this letter can be substantiated by all the general officers in General Jackson's and my

command. I am happy to inform you that my command is in good condition. Notwithstanding the arduous service of the last five months it is in as good condition as any cavalry in the Confederate service. If I can have two weeks' rest I will have it in better condition than any cavalry in the service. We are now drilling every day, notwithstanding we are picketing a line of 200 miles.

With highest respect, your obedient servant and friend,
J. WHEELER.

CHARLESTON, *January 14, 1865—9 p. m.*

General WHEELER:

If possible attack the enemy in flank if he advances against Pocotaligo.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

POCOTALIGO, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

The enemy advancing on my left will necessitate my withdrawal unless re-enforced. Can you come over and arrange for the establishment of your new line along by McPhersonville? Answer.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

POCOTALIGO, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

The forces at Coosawhatchie are retiring now.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

POCOTALIGO, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

You had better come over with a division of your cavalry. The enemy are driving everything in their front and advancing rapidly.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

The three companies of the Third South Carolina Cavalry have been ordered relieved. If you retire my presence here is actually necessary to withdraw my command properly. I send for Colonel Grigsby immediately and will come soon as I have withdrawn upon new line. Will come at once, however, if you direct it sooner.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

POCOTALIGO, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

The enemy are immediately in front here at Pocotaligo. I will try and withdraw to-night, the movement commencing from the right. Do

not send any cavalry here; there is no necessity for it. Keep communication open by way of Broxton's Bridge. The enemy have a bridge at Port Royal Ferry.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 15, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

You will please confer with Commodore Tucker as to present employment of the naval force at Charleston. I have this day sent a suggestion to him in that connection.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 15, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Yours of yesterday received.* I hope General Butler's division of cavalry will soon be with you. Have nothing from General Beauregard which enables me to say when or with what force he will reach you. I have called on the governor of Georgia, invoking his aid to sustain you in holding the line of the Combahee as better for defense than any you can take in the rear of it. I hope you will be able to check the advance of the enemy, and to be re-enforced before he can construct works to operate against your position.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 15, 1865.*

Commodore TUCKER,
Commanding, Afloat, Charleston, S. C.:

The movements of Sherman render it important that you should, if practicable, attack the enemy's force off the harbor. I trust that you can do so, and, if successful, that you may be able to destroy his depot at Hilton Head and render the most valuable aid to General Hardee.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

SALKEHATCHIE STATION,
CHARLESTON AND SAVANNAH RAILROAD,
January 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: The movements of the enemy indicate a serious advance either up the Salkehatchie, by which, crossing the river at Broxton's Bridge or higher up, they will reach the railroad at Midway, or some other point between Augusta and Branchville, or, by forcing a passage near the railroad bridge over the Salkehatchie, they will be able either to advance directly on Charleston or on Branchville. It is important that you should send a force at once to Broxton's Bridge to watch the enemy and to oppose his progress. I have not been able to obtain any information to-day respecting the movements of the enemy which is satisfactory. I have re-enforced McLaws at this point and have ordered

* See Part I, p. 1068.

a brigade to Broxton's Bridge, which will reach there, I hope, to-morrow. You must protect the railroad with all your force. I have directed a telegraph office to be opened at Midway. Take charge of Colcock's cavalry and see that it fights. I fear that it did not win any laurels yesterday. Keep constantly in presence of the enemy and inform me of everything important that occurs. Block the roads in front of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' CAVALRY DIVISION,
Cypress Creek, January 15, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,

Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have just arrived with my command at Cypress Creek. I was not molested by the enemy en route. My wagon train is already up and camped.

Very respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Beaver Dam Swamp, January 15, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

We arrived at this place, which is four miles from Gillisonville and three miles from the forks of the Robertsville and Lawtonville road, about day this morning, leaving a picket from the Kentucky Brigade on the Coosawhatchie road. Nothing from the enemy to-day. We will also picket the road we traveled and the road to Robertsville. If General Anderson leaves Robertsville our camps ought to be as far back as the forks of the road. Forage in this vicinity is very scarce. I will not allow any taken unless by consent of the owners. I think we could get nearer it by moving to the forks of the road, and picket and scout just as well. Captain Kanapaux failed to get to Coosawhatchie last night, and is here with his battery (four guns). Sergeant McDaniel, of Wiggins' battery, is with me also, with two guns. What shall I do with them? McDaniel wants to report to his company, with General Humes. Please inform me at what hour this command will be inspected, so that I can have as many men present as possible. The two guns at Dawson's Bluff were rendered useless and spiked, and all the ammunition brought off that could be brought with our limited transportation.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Division.

RICHMOND, VA., January 15, 1865.

Governor J. E. BROWN,

Milledgeville, Ga.:

The present condition of affairs in Eastern Georgia requires that General Hardee should be promptly and largely re-enforced. His line

on the Combahee is stronger for defense than any he can take in rear of it. I have sought and am seeking to aid him. Have no information from General Beauregard which enables me to judge of the time when he may be expected or of the force he can bring. Can you send men to assist General Hardee to hold the enemy in check? If so, how many and how soon? We must look forward and leave discussions of the past to a more convenient season.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 16, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Tupelo, Miss.:

General Hardee reports on 14th instant enemy in heavy force advancing from Beaufort, by Port Royal Ferry Landing, on our position at Pocotaligo.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 16, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1068.]

CHARLESTON, *January 16, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Should the enemy move in force up the Salkehatchie, move in a parallel line with him with all your force, except Conner's brigade.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 16, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Lieutenant-General Hardee directs me to say that the force at Broxton's must be 2,000 strong. He wishes the Georgia Reserves to be included in the force sent there.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BROXTON'S BRIDGE, *January 16, 1865.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that pursuant to orders from Colonel Harrison, commanding, I withdrew my batteries from Coosawhatchie at 7.30 p. m. 14th instant, and I arrived at this point at 10 p. m. yesterday. The condition of the causeway and the depth of water at Johnson's causeway over Cypress Creek made it necessary that I should cross above and go by Cypress Creek Church. This made the distance to McBride's Store rather more than twenty-eight miles, and I reached there at 8 a. m. yesterday, and rested for

five hours, my horses and men being very much jaded and the wagons had been sent off the day before, leaving no forage or rations. (I had received no orders to have any cooked rations on hand.)

Captain Zimmerman joined me here (McBride's), and the depth of water in Whippy Swamp again necessitated a detour to the left, and in addition the condition of the bridges over it delayed me for some time. I crossed the bridge here this morning, having reached the other bank at 10 last night, and found it in a most shattered condition. My command is very much jaded, and I would like to let horses and men have a little rest if consistent with circumstances. I shall at once try to familiarize myself with crossings of the river above this. I received some dispatches from you this morning. Captain Heyward had just gone, and I sent them on to him. Captain H. reached here yesterday at 12 m. Colonel Colcock ordered [him this] morning to report with his command to him at McTier's above Brailsfordville (which is above McPhersonville). He left with about forty of the squadron, so that now there is nothing here but my command. Captain Heyward sent the dispatch for General Wheeler directly on. I am informed by Captain Heyward that it is twenty-one miles from here to Midway on the South Carolina Railroad. Would it not be well to establish a line of couriers to that point? I am much in need of some stores from the ordnance department, for which I have required on Captain Smith; do have me informed so soon as they arrive. If they have not already been ordered to Green Pond would it not be better to order them sent to Midway? Do have this letter conveyed to Captain Brown; be pleased to read it.

The last information received from the enemy was through some scouts of Captain Heyward's, whom he left behind. They came to me yesterday at McBride's Store and told me [that at] 10 the night previous the enemy advanced at Coosawhatchie in considerable force, both cavalry and infantry, and that they were chased for a mile, &c. I sent one of them on here to report to Captain Heyward and the other two back to obtain something definite.

I must request that scarcity of paper may be an excuse for writing upon so many subjects on the same sheet. I feel that the efficiency of command would be augmented very much by turning in the Blakely which Zimmerman has. It is useless with the ammunition we have or that can be made in this country, and the horses are much needed. He has four Napoleons. Can't I turn it in and send it to Midway?

I have, captain, the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. EARLE,
Captain, Commanding Battery Light Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' CAVALRY DIVISION,
Cypress Creek, S. C., January 16, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp, &c.:

LIEUTENANT: To-day about 12 m. about one regiment of Yankee cavalry drove my pickets back to Gillsonville. I have sent to ascertain the particulars. A portion of Colcock's regiment came up this morning and reported that a Yankee raiding party—they did not know the numbers—came up from below Grahamville toward Grahamville. I do not think they will advance farther to-day.

Very respectfully, heutenant, your obedient servant,
W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
January 16, 1865.

Col. D. C. JENKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Our pickets report the enemy advancing on the road from here to Gillisonville. The picket has seen only about twenty Yankees. We do not know in what force they are advancing.

Respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Beaver Dam, January 16, 1865.

Col. D. C. JENKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The enemy has fallen back to a point a short distance this side of Gillisonville, but a small party came near our camp. Our pickets are skirmishing with him a little. A regiment has been sent forward to ascertain his strength, &c. The firing of a few guns has been heard upon road leading to General Humes' camp. The enemy this morning captured a wagon and mules, and four men from Kanapaux's battery. The wagon was going to Gillisonville, without my knowledge, after baggage belonging to the battery.

Respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
January 16, 1865—2.30 o'clock.

Colonel JENKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

COLONEL: The enemy have retired, going in the direction of Grahamville. Their force was about fifty men. I have withdrawn my force and am moving on to new camp. I have left a picket, beyond old camp, of thirty men, with instructions to scout every twelve hours.

Respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding, &c.

RICHMOND, VA., January 17, 1865.

Governor A. G. MAGRATH,
Charleston, S. C.:

Yours of the 15th received to-day. I had no information of the withdrawal of troops by General Bragg. Will communicate with General Lee, who commands department including Wilmington. Major-General Butler's division was directed to proceed as rapidly as possible to South Carolina. General Hampton has, I suppose, gone also. General Beauregard is at headquarters of Hood's army, with orders to bring all the troops which can be spared and resume control of operations against Sherman. I am fully alive to the importance of successful resistance to Sherman's advance, and have called on the governor of Georgia to give all the aid he can furnish. Had you not better correspond with him on that point?

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, January 17, 1865.

General S. COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: The dispatch of General Hardee, of the 10th instant, relative to the 200 men of Col. E. C. Anderson's cavalry regiment, has been received. I desire that Colonel Anderson, with all his men in Georgia, and all the men of Young's brigade in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, be ordered to join their division under General Butler upon its arrival in that department.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[JANUARY 17, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1068.]

CHARLESTON, *January 17, 1865.*

(Received 18th.)

General S. COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General:

Deserters from the enemy concur in stating that the force which crossed at Port Royal Ferry, and which is now [in] vicinity of Pocatigo, consists of Fifteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps; also that their destination is Charleston. They add that this force brought few wagons and but little artillery with it, but that Sherman was to have marched about the same time from Savannah. No developments to-day.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
In the Field, Broxton's Bridge, January 17, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Colonel Harrison directs me to inform you of the following disposition of the infantry portion of the force under his command: Colonel Daniel, with the Fifth Georgia Regulars, detachment First South Carolina Cavalry, dismounted, and the Third Georgia Reserves, holds the line from Broxton's Bridge to Dubois' Landing, including those two points. Lieutenant-Colonel Bacon, with the Thirty-second and Forty-seventh Georgia Regiments, regulars, holds Rivers' Bridge. Colonel Cumming, Fifth Georgia Reserves, holds Buford's Bridge with his regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Neely, with the First Georgia Reserves, holds Morris' Ford.

These reserve troops have not yet reported, but will be put in the positions above mentioned as soon as they arrive. He desires to know if this disposition of the troops is approved by the major-general commanding. Colonel H. has gone to Buford's Bridge to examine it and the intermediate crossings. He will be back this evening.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. M. BLOUNT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

Near Steep Bottom Church, January 17, 1865—9.15 a. m.

General L. McLaws,

Commanding, near Salkehatchie Station:

GENERAL: There were captured day before yesterday, near Station No. 6, three Yankee prisoners who belong to the Eighteenth Missouri Regiment, Sheldon's brigade, Mower's [division], Seventeenth Corps. They state that the Seventeenth Corps was near Station No. 6, and that the Fifteenth, commanded by Sweeny [Logan], is at Beaufort. They say there is no cavalry with them; that they heard their cavalry had crossed the Savannah River about the 1st of this month, about three miles above Savannah. They drew ten days' rations (in haversacks) on the 10th, and marched from Beaufort on 13th. They do not know the amount of artillery or number of wagons with them, but say their wagon train is small; say the talk in camp is that Charleston is their destination. There are four regiments in his brigade, numbering in all about 2,000 men who carry guns, and that their brigade is the largest in the division. They received some recruits at Savannah and some at Beaufort. They say the Fourth [Fourteenth] and Twentieth Corps were to march from Savannah to Charleston by the line of the railroad. A scouting party of about fifty men came up a short distance this side of Gillisonville yesterday, and was driven back toward Grahamville.

I inclose a report of General Dibrell relative to the capture of a wagon.*

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,

Major-General.

N. B.—The Savannah is so high that our batteries had to be withdrawn at Mathews' Bluff. The works are covered with water.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH GEORGIA CAVALRY,

January 17, 1865.

Capt. R. F. Lawton,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Your communication of the 10th instant received. I have done as directed in regard to the disposition of the forces under my command. In regard to the troops in the country, there are none but Hood's battalion that are on duty, and I understand that there is but sixty left of them and they badly demoralized. They picket at Fort Barrington, below Doctor Town, and at Beard's Bluff above, on the Altamaha. They have a fragment of a company at Waynesville. Captain Cosby, commanding a detachment engaged in hunting deserters, is now reporting to me with about thirty men. These are all the Confederate troops of whom I have any knowledge in this section of country, except fifteen men belonging to a Mississippi battalion of General Ferguson's regiment [brigade]. Scouts report no enemy this side of the Ogeechee River.

I am, captain, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN L. HARRIS,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

* See January 16, p. 1018.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Tallahassee, January 17, 1865.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President Confederate States of America:

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you the following suggestions looking to the defense of the people of Florida from the forces of the enemy at Savannah. I approach the subject with diffidence, knowing the great cares which engross your attention, and that every available resource is now needed to meet the masses of the enemy at other points. Yet there are considerations vitally connected with the continuance of the war which demand that every means which can be spared by the Government shall be used to protect Southwest Georgia and Florida from the enemy's raids. Amongst these considerations I suggest as most important the supplies of subsistence and forage, the country being as yet unpenetrated by the enemy; also the general disaffection to be apprehended from their successful inroad, the re-enforcements they would obtain by slaves, and the proximity of this entire region to the Gulf coast, which if once occupied will render its recovery extremely difficult. I am constrained from a careful observation and from all the information I have received to regard with the most serious forebodings the effect on public opinion in the State of Georgia of the recent march of the enemy through her territory and their establishment at Savannah.

This state of feeling, together with the abundant supplies, the short distance from Savannah, and the facilities supplied by the Albany and Gulf Railroad to Thomasville, and the connection with Florida at Live Oak, present the inducement and the means for a successful and ruinous invasion of Southwest Georgia and Middle Florida. I would respectfully submit for your consideration the following measures, which, in my opinion, are the most effectual that can be adopted to protect this portion of the Confederacy until the movement of the main armies shall enable us to arrive at more practical results:

First. The assignment of the southwest counties of Georgia and Alabama bordering on Florida to the Military District of Florida.

Second. The retention of the reserves and the detailed men of those counties in the district for military service therein.

Third. The immediate removal of the iron from the Albany and Gulf Railroad from a point as near Savannah as practicable.

Fourth. The construction of a railroad from Thomasville to Albany and of a railroad from Quincy to the Appalachian River, which I recommended years ago.

With proper energy and military ability, with the use of the militia forces of this State and the adjacent counties of Georgia, which I doubt not can be procured through officers of this State well known in those counties, and with the co-operation of the Executive of Georgia, I shall feel some degree of confidence that we shall be able to defeat any force which the enemy will probably send against us during the pendency of larger operations elsewhere. Without such measures we may fall a prey to a comparatively small force.

I respectfully and earnestly urge your immediate and favorable consideration of this subject and the adoption of such measures as will carry the suggestions made into immediate effect.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

JOHN MILTON,
Governor of Florida.

[JANUARY 18, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1068.]

CHARLESTON, *January 18, 1865.*

His Excellency President JEFFERSON DAVIS:

Telegram of the 15th instant received. I have consulted with General Hardee and commanding officers of the squadron and it is decided impracticable to make the attack as proposed by you. I have but two iron-clads and they are with defective steam power. The enemy has six or seven monitors, besides several wooden vessels and heavy land batteries. In my opinion the attack proposed would result in our capture or make it necessary to destroy the vessels, with all on board, to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy. This sacrifice I am ready to make if it will advance the public interests.

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag-Officer.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Near McTier's, January 18, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Citizens say that Generals Sherman and Howard are at Pocotaligo. Prisoners captured by some of General Wheeler's men say the Fifteenth Army Corps is in Beaufort. By citizens I mean two boys, who say they saw Sherman and Howard and that Sherman says he is building a railroad from Beaufort to Pocotaligo, and will furnish transportation there to the poor, and rations on their arrival. Our pickets are near the enemy. They have attempted no forward movement from Pocotaligo yet, except scouting and foraging parties.

Very respectfully,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis, First Tennessee Cavalry, reports the enemy advancing in large force, 9 a. m., on McPhersonville. I think, as they are not advancing on this road also, that their object is quarters or to burn the village.

C. J. COLCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salkehatchie, January 18, 1865.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Deserters taken by scouts from this side report two corps about Pocotaligo, the Seventeenth and Fifteenth. A lady who came over with a sick husband, under flag of truce, reports the enemy in very heavy force. The President telegraphs that he expects an obstinate resistance along the line of the Combahee until re-enforcements arrive. Fort Fisher has fallen and most of the garrison captured, General Whiting and staff with the rest.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 19, 1865.*

Gen. G. T. BEAUREGARD:

General Hill having arrived at Augusta, General Hardee has been authorized, at his request, to place him on duty there.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector-General.

RICHMOND, *January 19, 1865.*

Lient. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Charleston, S. C. :

In a telegram addressed to the President some time since you stated that Wheeler's cavalry had been reorganized. It is desirable that the Department should know what is the new organization; how many divisions and how formed. The recommendation for the promotion of Brigadier-General Humes approved and forwarded by you, is now under consideration, but no action can be taken until the information requested is furnished. There are already three major-generals, Wheeler, Martin and Young, credited to this cavalry corps.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 19, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,

Augusta, Ga. :

Report to General Hardee for duty at Augusta.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
Broxton's Bridge, January 19, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Division Headquarters :

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inclose an order from General Hardee, relative to sending any troops up to Morris' Ford at present. Colonel Pickett asked me to send you a copy of it. Kanapaux's battery has reported to me. General Hardee directed me to keep it if I needed it; if not, to send it on down to you. At present I do not need it, but as soon as my artillery is put in position I will need it, as I have four crossings to guard, at each of which a battery will be needed. Shall I send it down to you or not? I have partially examined my line as far up as Buford's Bridge. The swamp is quite an obstacle, but by no means do I consider it impassable for infantry. It will require a continuous line of skirmishers between the different crossings to prevent the enemy from flanking our works at the different bridges; this I have not force enough to do. I think inclosed works should be erected at each bridge, in order that they may [be] held in case the enemy cross above or below them until reinforcements could be brought to the point attacked. This is being done at this point, but at neither of the other bridges. Very few hands are at work, and hence the works are progressing slowly. If you can furnish me tools I will put soldiers to work, but think more negroes should be put on the line. No roads are yet cut along the swamp with which we can relieve or communicate with our pickets. I will put soldiers to work at this as soon as the

acting engineer marks out the line. I will try and get up to Morris' Ford in time to learn the swamp there before the enemy threatens that position.

I have no news from the cavalry to-day; would like very much if arrangements could be made for me to get information from General Wheeler. I have established a relay of couriers to Branchville, but have only one man at each post as yet. I have sent the Blakely gun of Zimmerman's battery to Branchville, owing to scarcity of horses in his battery. Is this right? If you can procure a map of this county do get it for me.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

*Report of guns of, or in position, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.**

	Smooth-bore guns.														
	11-inch Dahlgren (barbette).	10-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch naval colum- biad (barbette).	42-pounder barbette (center pivot).	32-pounder barbette.	24-pounder barbette.	24-pounder siege.	18-pounder siege.	12-pounder barbette.	12-pounder siege.	6-pounder field.	9-inch Dahlgren.	8-inch siege.	4.75-inch.
Battery White						1	4	2			1	1			
Battery Warren															
Fort Moultrie		4													
Battery Marshall			1	1							1				
Battery Bee	1	4	1												
Battery Marion		3	1												
Battery Beauregard		1	1			1	2								
Battery Rutledge		3													
Two-gun batteries						4	4								
Battery Evans						1									
Battery Palmetto				2									1		
Battery Gary															
Battery Kinloch						1									
Christ Church lines							2							2	
Fort Sumter		1													
Castle Pinckney		4													
Battery Waring		2													
Battery Ramsey	1	3													
Spring-Street Battery		1													
Battery over the Ashley		1													
New lines:															
Work 0			1					2			2				
Work 1												2			
Work 2				1		2	1								
Work 3								2	2						
Work 4						2									
Work 5								2							
Secessionville					1	3	1					2			
Fort Lamar				3		2									
Redoubt No. 1				1		1									
Battery Ryan						1									
Battery Tatum						1									
Battery Haskell			1									2			
Battery Cheves			3												
Battery Simkins															
Fort Johnson		2													
Battery Wampler		2													
Battery Harleston		3													
Battery Tynes			2												
Battery Pringle		2		2											
Fort Trenholm		2				2		2				6			
Battery Washington						1		1	1						
Battery Haig							2								
Battery Wilkes							1								
Battery Geddes							1								
Battery Palmer				1		2	2				1				
Works on overflow						1	2	1			1				

* Forwarded by Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee, January 19, 1865, in compliance with circular from War Department dated December 20, 1864.

Report of guns of, or in position, Department of South Carolina, etc.—Continued.

	Smooth-bore guns.										
	11-inch Dahlgren (barbette).	10-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch naval columbiad (barbette).	42-pounder barbette (center pintle).	32-pounder barbette.	24-pounder barbette.	24-pounder siege.	18-pounder siege.	12-pounder barbette.	12-pounder siege.
Works at Church Flats						1				1	
Works at Pineberry						1					
Works at Willstown								2			
Works at Caw Caw											
Works at Stock's Causeway.										1	
Works at Burnett's						1					
Works at Dawson's Bluff								1			
Works at Red Bluff			1			5	6				
Batteries on the Appalachicola River.											
Battery at Saint Mark's.										20	
In various other positions.											
Total	2	38	14	11	1	36	28	17	4	1	9

	Rifled guns.										
	12.75-inch Blakely (front pintle).	10-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch columbiad (barbette).	7-inch Brooke.	6.40-inch Brooke.	42-pounder barbette (front pintle).	42-pounder barbette (center pintle).	32-pounder barbette.	24-pounder barbette.	24-pounder siege.	18-pounder barbette.
Battery White								3			2
Battery Warren								1			1
Fort Moultrie			2					1			2
Battery Marshall				1							
Battery Bee		1									
Battery Marion				1				2			
Battery Beauregard			1								
Battery Rutledge		1									
Fort Sumter			1			4					
Castle Pinckney				1							
Battery Ramsey	1						1				
Battery, Frazer's Wharf	1										
Battery, Calhoun street			1								
Battery, Vanderhorst's Wharf.				1			1				
Half-Moon Battery							1	1			
New lines:											
Work 1											1
Work 3								2			
Secessionville								1		1	1
Fort Lamar										1	
Battery Ryan						2					
Battery Simkins											
Fort Johnson		1	1	1	1						
Battery Harleston			3								
Battery Glover							1				
Battery Tyne							2	2			
Battery Pringle							2	2			
Fort Trenholm			1							1	
Works at Willstown									1		
Works at Ashepoo								2			1
Works at Burnett's									2		
Works at Red Bluff											
Battery at Saint Mark's								2			
Total	2	3	10	6	3	4	8	19	3	3	2

Report of guns of, or in position, Department of South Carolina, etc.—Continued.

	Rifled guns.					Howitzers.					42-pounder caronades, navy slides.	Mortars.	
	20-pounder Parrott.	4 inch Blakely.	3½ inch Blakely.	4.62-inch.	3-inch.	James.	8-inch sea-coast.	8-inch siege.	24-pounder (iron).	24-pounder Austrian (bronze).	12-pounder (iron).	10-inch.	32-pounder rifled and banded.
Fort Moultrie.....												1	
Battery Marshall.....		1					3					5	
Battery Marion.....							3					3	
Battery Beauregard.....													
Christ Church lines.....	2												
New lines:													
Work 1.....								1					
Work 2.....							1						
Work 4.....							1						
Secessionville.....								1					
Battery Ryan.....										5			
Battery Tatam.....										2			
Battery Haskell.....							1					2	1
Battery Simkins.....												3	
Fort Johnson.....										2			
Works at Pineberry.....				1									
Works at Willstown.....			2										
Works at Burnett's.....				1									
Works at Old Pocotaligo.....									1	2			
Works at Dawson's Bluff.....					1								
In various other positions.....						6					2		
Total.....	2	1	2	2	1	6	9	2	1	11	2	12	1

A. J. GONZALES,

Colonel and Chief of Artillery, Department S. C., Ga., and Fla.

[JANUARY 19, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1117.]

CHARLESTON, January 20, 1865.

General S. COOPER:

Telegram of 19th in relation to Wheeler's cavalry received. Information sent by mail to-day.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MOUNTED DETACH., ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Heyward's House, January 20, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I have arranged my picket-line along the Combahee, and that the connection between myself and General Mercer on your left is complete. I found a small company of Reserve cavalry on duty at this point by order of General Mercer, but after riding over the lines and seeing General Mercer they were removed to below Cuckold's Creek, where my line connects with

them. Captain Lowry pickets at Daniel Blake's and above. The line is as well guarded as the limited number of my command will admit of. I find that all the corn at or near this point has been contracted for by Major Holcombe, commissary of subsistence, in accordance with the verbal order of the general. I have supplied myself from it. Shall I continue to do so?

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. L. CHURCH,
Captain, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CONNER'S BRIGADE,
January 20, 1865—1.15 p. m.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: At Colonel Kennedy's request I desire to inform the major-general commanding that the enemy have appeared in our front to the left of the railroad. While I am writing they are exchanging shots with our pickets. The colonel does not think it more than a reconnoitering party who are endeavoring to ascertain our force. Every arrangement has been made to meet them at all points.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. R. HOLMES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LAWTONVILLE, S. C., *January 20, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: Since writing you a few days since relative to the promotion of General Ferguson, in which letter I gave you some excellent reasons why he should not be promoted, I have learned that he was strongly recommended for promotion by General Beauregard. General Ferguson has never served under General Beauregard as a cavalry officer, and I think General Beauregard has not had opportunity of judging of his fitness for that position. I have just seen General Anderson, who is a friend of General Ferguson, yet, with his friendship, he tells me that it would be very disastrous to the command if General Ferguson is made major-general. He says General Ferguson was insubordinate as a cadet, insubordinate as a lieutenant in the U. S. Army, and insubordinate as a brigadier under General Jackson. I have also had evidences of insubordination since he has been with me, and should he be promoted I think he will certainly prove insubordinate as a division commander. I have had so much trouble with such officers that I most heartily wish to have no more such under my command. If under my command, I wish their influence over as few troops as possible. Besides this, his command is the most undisciplined of any with me. General Anderson also informs me that Ferguson never loses an opportunity to depreciate his commander in the opinion of his command, which is another vital reason why he would be an incumbrance to me or any other commanding officer. Insubordinate officers are the worst enemies our country has to fear. I also learn that General Young has been recommended for promotion for a command here. I hope this is not so. I have officers much more efficient in all respects, and their 'Young's and Ferguson's) appointment would decrease the

efficiency of this command, which by hard labor I claim to have made the best instructed, best disciplined, and best fighting cavalry in the Confederacy.

The reports you have heard regarding the depredations of my command I am able to prove are, for the most part, basely false. I can also show that no officer in the Confederacy has taken one-half the care I have taken to protect citizens in person and property, and now they are beginning to appreciate my efforts. If you desire more full reasons why the appointments of Generals Young and Ferguson would be detrimental, I would refer to the conditions of their commands, which shows a depletion exceeding any other in my command. Generals Allen and Humes are brave, subordinate, and withal good disciplinarians. While they have been in command of my divisions I have had thus far good success, and not a single reverse. Every reverse I have ever had thus far has been when I was crossed by insubordinate and tricky officers. General Hardee is having my troops inspected, and I would respectfully refer you to the reports of his officers as to their efficiency and discipline. General Hardee is also having reports of their depredations inspected, who will also be able to show what wrong impressions have been made.

The enemy appear to be moving in a direction which would indicate Branchville or Charleston as their destination. My command is somewhat spread out. A little more than a third is on the Georgia side of the river guarding from the Savannah River to the coast near the mouth of the Altamaha.

With highest respect, your obedient servant and friend,
J. WHEELER.

P. S.—General Robertson is fast recovering, and I hope soon to have him with me. He is brave and efficient, and his brigade under him will be the best in the service. He will soon earn promotion to major-general. He is now more worthy of it than either Generals Young or Ferguson.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
January 20, 1865.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston :

Prisoners taken yesterday and to-day report Seventeenth Corps at Pocotaligo, and Twentieth at Hardeeville.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Laughtonville, January 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. L. MCLAWS,
Commanding, &c., Salkehatchie Station :

GENERAL: I did not understand whether the instructions for me to report to you included sending my routine papers through you, or simply designed that I send you reports of the enemy. Will you please inform me on this point. I have also been sending reports direct to General Hardee in addition to reporting to you. Is that necessary whilst reporting to you?

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 20, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1118.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Near McTier's, January 20, 1865.

Brigadier-General HUMES,
Commanding, &c. :

GENERAL: The enemy in large force are at Pocotaligo Station—two army corps. A prisoner taken to-day reports that the other forces are coming by land from Savannah, and is under the impression that they arrived at Coosawhatchie last night. Up to this time very little cavalry about Pocotaligo. They have not attempted to advance, except a few miles for the purpose of foraging, in which they have been very unsuccessful, as the country is stripped of everything. They always retire at night to the railroad. To-day they advanced a regiment of infantry four or five miles up this road—the Salkehatchie road; they were met and checked by my regiments. I lost one man, and took one prisoner, first lieutenant of Thirty-second Ohio Infantry. He reports that this force was put in position to protect the left flank of an attacking column, which went down to Salkehatchie bridge. Heavy infantry firing has been going on in that direction all day, of which we don't know the results. Citizens who conversed with the enemy during their advance to-day inform me that they were told by the officers that their whole army would advance up this road to-morrow en route for Charleston, after taking which they intended to go on to Richmond. Just below my camp is a very strong position, where I can hold them in check for many hours. I have about 300 men for duty; with 2,000 they could be checked here for several days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION,
Hickory Hill, January 21, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of Major-General Wheeler. Send Harrison's brigade to Colcock, with a section of artillery, immediately. My other brigade will go to where Lewis is situated.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
January 20, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General :

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to state all quiet in my immediate front this morning. No report from Lieutenant-Colonel Harris since my last dispatch. General Ferguson has not reported yet. I have Colonel Hawkins across the Ogeechee till his arrival. Fifty-one negroes, picked up at different times within the last three or four days making their way toward the enemy, have been sent to the rear.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Altamaha, January 20, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding, &c.:

Since writing I have information from a very reliable source that Kilpatrick is camped at the Little Ogeechee, nine miles this side of Savannah; that he has four brigades; that Kilpatrick claims to have 2,600 men in each, though he thinks this is overrated, and that 1,500 or 2,000 to each is enough. His opinion is that they will move speedily, in a few days; that vigorous preparations are making for an active campaign. He is of opinion that the move will be on South-west Georgia, and not on Carolina. I do not think it prudent to give the name in a dispatch; but I know the man is true and I have much confidence in his judgment.

Very respectfully,

H. K. MCCOY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Augusta, January 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your note of the 18th instant received to-day. There are now no prisoners in the custody of the provost-marshal belonging to your command, all having been forwarded. The city authorities have notified me that they cannot longer feed the eighty nine confined in the jail, and I have written to General Hardee to know what is to be done with them. General D. H. Hill is here and in command of the country from Branchville to Millen. Please inform me in your next whether you have the key to the last cipher. I may find it necessary to write you some things which ought not to risk capture.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. D. FRY,
Brigadier-General, &c.

AUGUSTA, January 20, 1865.
(Received 1.40 o'clock 21st.)

General S. COOPER:

I am here in obedience to your orders. General D. H. Hill is in command by order of General Hardee, and I have nothing to do. Have written you fully by private hands on subject of my duties at Macon.

HOWELL COBB,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, January 20, 1865.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: Referring to my application for an extension of leave of absence, which was granted to me in paragraph LI, Special Orders, No. 4, current series, from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, I have respectfully to request that when the extension shall have expired, or it may be necessary to place me upon duty, that it may not be under the command of General G. T. Beauregard. My reasons for this appli-

cation are that that officer has on one occasion at least avowed personal motives of hostility as a reason for interfering with my official position, and I have good reason to fear that his action in reference to myself in other cases has been from similar motives. I have now been in this service since the commencement of this war, much of the time in responsible position. During that time I have seen many juniors promoted over me for reasons which I did not understand and for which I did not inquire. But I respectfully suggest that length of service forms some ground for a claim for immunity from a position where the public service is more than likely to be interfered with by action based on the part of the superior on motives of a personal character.

I do not believe that any service of mine in such position can be beneficial to the public good or our cause, and I therefore earnestly and respectfully renew the request that I may not be ordered to serve under the command of General G. T. Beauregard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RIPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Provisional Army, C. S.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded.

Brigadier-General Ripley is active, energetic, intelligent, ambitious, cunning, and fault-finding. He complains of every commanding officer he has served under, and has quarreled (or had difficulties) with almost every one of his immediate subordinate commanders since his promotion to his present rank in 1861. He obeys orders only so far as they suit his purposes, provided, by disobeying them, he does not incur the risk of a court-martial, which, however, he does not much fear, trusting to his intelligence and ability to get clear of the consequences thereof.

I am informed by an officer of my staff that he heard General Ripley say, in January last, at Charleston, that "I'll be d——d if I obey the order sending me to Hood's army," or words to that effect. I therefore must insist on his being made to obey that order and suffer the consequences of having disobeyed it so long (since December 23, 1864). After his trial and acquittal, if acquitted, I will readily approve his application to be transferred to a brigade serving in the field beyond the limits of my command, for I will consider myself fortunate to be rid of such an element of discord.

I recommended General Ripley for promotion when I was in command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida on account of his zeal, activity, and intelligent discharge of his duties during the siege of Charleston, but since that period his habits have become so unreliable (as the papers transmitted by me to the War Department since September last will prove) that I respectfully recall those recommendations until there can be a guarantee that his habits have become more reliable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 21, 1865.

General Ripley has been again ordered to report to General Beauregard.

H. L. C[LAY],
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee commanding, for January 20, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
General staff.....	24			24	26	
Trapier's brigade.....	13	194	189	285	425	1
Taliaferro's division.....	273	5,417	5,292	6,622	9,163	16
McLaws' division.....	357	5,205	5,099	6,554	12,298	
Miller's brigade.....	109	1,483	1,448	1,785	3,002	6
Smith's division.....	169	1,103	1,069	1,517	6,450	
Wright's division.....	203	2,797	2,761	3,402	5,839	38
Wheeler's cavalry corps.....	685	7,008	6,813	9,410	15,428	
Post commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Means.....	36	214	213	260	383	
Total.....	1,869	23,421	22,884	29,863	53,014	64

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 No. 17. } *Richmond, January 21, 1865.*

XXXV. Paragraph LI, Special Orders, No. 4, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, granting leave of absence for ninety days to Brig. Gen. R. S. Ripley, Provisional Army, C. S., is hereby revoked.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., January 21, 1865.

General D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

Induce, by all encouragement and aid you can give, the removal of cotton, whether of the Government or of private individuals, from Augusta. In removing, it is preferable to place it as far as practicable north of Branchville. To promote removal and to be prepared for contingencies, make preparations to burn whatever cotton may be in the city in event of its evacuation or capture. It must not fall into the hands of the enemy.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salkehatchie Bridge, January 21, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Sergeant Paysinger has returned. He crossed the river at or near the pontoon bridge and directed his route toward the McPhersonville road, crossed it, left Pocotaligo to his left, and went down to the Coosawhatchie, which was too high for him to cross. He saw two divisions of the enemy on the march to Blountville yesterday, where

they remained until 10 o'clock last night, returning then to Pocotaligo. General Mower commanded them (from the statement of two prisoners taken) and they numbered, by his calculation, 5,000 men. He affirms positively that only the Seventeenth Corps is at Pocotaligo Station; that one division (a small one) of Foster's troops is at Coosawhatchie. The Fifteenth Corps is at Beaufort. The enemy, he reports, are tearing up the railroad iron between the Salkehatchie River and Pocotaligo Station. He captured four prisoners. Two of them were turned over to some of our cavalry and two sent to you.

The above information I regard as reliable. I send the information for the perusal of the major-general commanding.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. D. KENNEDY,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Kadesh Church, near McTier's, January 21, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The enemy sent up this road (the Salkehatchie) yesterday a regiment of infantry, preceded by a small body of cavalry. With my regiment I met and drove back their cavalry and checked their infantry, who retired in the evening. We lost one man killed; none wounded. We captured one prisoner with a scouting party I sent out, a first lieutenant, Webb, of the Thirty-second Ohio Regiment, whom I sent under guard this morning to Lieutenant-General Hardee. He says they have in the main the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps; that Sherman is in Beaufort and the whole force will be over in a few days; that part of Sherman's army is marching from Savannah and thinks part of it has already arrived at Coosawhatchie; thinks Sherman is aiming for Charleston direct. Colonel Harrison, of General Wheeler's cavalry, has arrived to-day with his brigade, numbering about 550 men, and says General Humes is on his way here with his brigade. All quiet in our front this morning. Their movement up this road yesterday was designed, I suppose, to protect the left of the movement on Salkehatchie bridge. Please inform me whether a line of couriers has been established [between] Dubois' Ford and your headquarters. If not, it is very desirable that one be established at once, as it would save some thirty miles courier duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Charleston, S. C., January 21, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
In the Field:

GENERAL: If the section of Maxwell's battery which was with General Iverson is now serving with you on this side of the Savannah, Lieutenant-General Hardee directs that it be sent to rejoin the battery at Adams' Run.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salkehatchie, January 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I received to-day statements from two different scouting parties, both composed of the most reliable men, who say that yesterday two divisions of the Seventeenth Army Corps, the First and Fourth, marched out from Pocotaligo with two days' rations and sixty rounds of ammunition, and came down to the river with a large pioneer force, stopping at a place called Blountville until 10 o'clock last night, when they returned to Pocotaligo. A scouting party from this force having been observed from this side of the river, I put my people in motion to repel the attack, which seemed imminent. I think they returned because the waters were rising and because they heard the cheers of our troops. I regret to add that my troops fired upon each other in the swamp, the mistake being caused by the nature of the country in which they were operating. The Federal force referred to by the scouts numbered (so prisoners say who were taken by the scouts) 5,000 men and were commanded by General Mowry [Mower]. The enemy (so a reliable and experienced scout reports) are taking up the iron from the railroad between the Salkehatchie and Pocotaligo Station. I received to-day your report of transportation, dated the 3d instant. Cannot imagine where it has been. Previous to your report of the 19th, just received (10 p. m.), nothing had been received since day before yesterday. Prisoners taken say that the Seventeenth Army Corps is, or is about to be, in motion. The Seventeenth Army Corps is at Pocotaligo, and no other; so it is positively reported. The Fifteenth is at Beaufort. A small division of Foster's is at Coosawhatchie. I send you to-day's papers from Charleston. Passengers from Charleston report that Hood is at Columbus. (*Quien sabe?*) The Salkehatchie is very high and rising rapidly.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, January 21, 1865—9.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. L. McLAWS,
Commanding, &c., Salkehatchie Station:

GENERAL: A scout sent this morning in direction of Hardeeville reports that he went within six miles of Hardeeville, where he met a scout of about twenty-five men from the enemy, who told citizens they were in search of rebel soldiers who were lurking about home. He reports that the country was overflowed by the river, and the swamps so full as to be very difficult of passage; that the enemy are engaged in cutting the blockage out of the Robertsville road and the Grahamville road. A citizen who was a prisoner in Hardeeville on the 19th thought that there was at least one corps at Hardeeville, and said that he had heard drums in the direction of Purysburg, but was unable to learn from the enemy the name of the commanding general or the corps. He saw very little cavalry, but large crowds of infantry; could hear nothing of any crossing the Savannah River. Had heard nothing of any boats coming as high up as Purysburg. The scout thinks their encampment extends from Purysburg to Hardeeville; he heard of many

negroes running to the enemy. A scout went yesterday in three miles of Grahamville and saw no enemy; he thinks the enemy picket but a short distance in their front. Reports from near Pocotaligo indicate that the enemy is demonstrating upon Salkehatchie bridge. General Humes' entire division is now between the Combahee and Coosawhatchie Rivers to oppose the enemy's advance northward. I have instructed him to cut down trees across the road.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—Everything reported quiet on the Georgia side of the river. Enemy seems to have discontinued foraging beyond Bryan County.

CIRCULAR.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
January 21, 1865.

Col. O. M. Messick and Lieut. Col. John F. Cameron are announced as provost-marshals of this corps, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Major-General Wheeler:

M. G. HUDSON,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CHARLESTON, *January 22, 1865.*

President DAVIS:

I am so impressed with the belief that in the military operations in the next few days in this State the fate of the Confederation is deeply involved, that I am here to urge upon General Hardee the defense of Charleston to the last moment, in the hope that meanwhile re-enforcements will enable us to hold it. I am using all influence with Governor Brown and Governor Vance to keep our States together and each give its help to the other, but confidence is almost lost and hope is to a great extent gone. To restore these and rally the people here and elsewhere there must be a stand-point to which all should look as the place where the purposes and strength of our Government are exhibited. Circumstances have plainly made Charleston and its connections that place. The loss of these, added to our other losses, will spread dismay, and I fear that such a loss will be taken as proof that our cause is without life or hope, and any effectual resistance cannot be prolonged. My intelligence from adjoining States confirms these apprehensions most fully.

Give General Hardee the help with which he can oppose General Sherman and I assure you that the spirit of the people will rise again. Not to sustain him is to confirm the belief that our cause is already lost. In my letter to General Lee, written within a few days, I repeat to you what I have said. It is because I feel the fate of Charleston and of Branchville to a great extent will determine that of other States, and with it the cause of the Confederation, that I urge the necessity for aid upon you in the most impressive manner. Richmond will hereby fall when Charleston is lost. To retain Richmond until Charleston is lost is to sacrifice both. If Charleston can be saved, and in doing that the means of resistance for the whole Confederation

can be preserved, then, although to give succor to Charleston might hasten the fall of Richmond, yet to give that succor without delay is, to me, the obvious policy. God forbid that I should urge you to give up an inch of the soil of Virginia that can be saved; but if it must be inevitably lost, to delay that inevitable necessity at such a cost as to endanger our whole cause, is not to accomplish any good.

In the meanwhile let me again say to you that every hour is now of the last consequence to us.

A. G. MAGRATH.

[JANUARY 22, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1069.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Kadesh Church, on the Salkehatchie Road,
January 22, 1865—Night.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Scouts have just reported to me that they went as far as Sellers' to-day on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, about two miles this side of Salkehatchie bridge, and that as far as they could see in either direction the railroad track was torn up and the cross-ties piled and burning. This appears to me to indicate the abandonment of Pocotaligo as a base, and that they will attempt to cross the river lower down or fall back to Savannah and move on toward Augusta. They are still picketing in half a mile of Pocotaligo Station, their line of pickets being encountered by my scouts at that distance from that station. I have a ferry established from Weakley's, on this side, to Dubois' on the opposite side of the Salkehatchie, and a boat kept on each side. It is three miles from Dubois' to the line of couriers extending from your headquarters to Broxton's Bridge. If you will direct your communications to me at Kadesh Church via Dubois' Crossing, and order the courier nearest that crossing to take them there, communication can be had between us in one-third the time via Broxton's Bridge.

Please do me the favor to have some one appointed to open the Pocotaligo and Grahamville mails and forward all letters, &c., for members of my regiment.

Please accept my thanks for several which you have had the kindness to send me. You will further oblige me by sending any letters at Salkehatchie directed to W. D. Gregorie.

Your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CONNER'S BRIGADE,
January 22, 1865.

Captain ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I desire to inform the major-general commanding that a working party of the enemy made their appearance about half an hour since, and proceeded to tear up the railroad. I ordered Captain Barnwell to open on them from his gun on the railroad, and after six shots

succeeded in dispersing them. Sergeant Paysinger is absent on a scout, in company with Captain Dickert; as soon as he returns I will order him to report to the general.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. S. LEWIE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salkehatchie, January 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I do not consider that I have anything to do with your routine papers, but General Hardee wishes you to report daily to him directly, as well as to myself, all movements of the enemy. I report to General Hardee all important information received from you, and he does the same to me. This is done in order to obtain certain information and to make sure that both are informed. General Hardee, I think, was under the impression that your reports of the movements of the enemy were to be sent via Midway or Branchville, so that if this line should fail from any cause there would be a chance to be informed by the other. The enemy are tearing up the railroad and burning and twisting the iron between the Salkehatchie and Pocotaligo. The Seventeenth Army Corps is at Pocotaligo, fortifying; so it is said. A demonstration was made to cross the river on the 20th, but it amounted to nothing. A small division of Foster's is at Coosawhatchie. A prisoner taken on the other side reports that some of the Fifteenth Army Corps have come over from Beaufort, but no prisoners have been taken from that corps.

I am, general, very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, January 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. L. McLAWS,
Commanding Division Cavalry:

GENERAL: I can hear of no movement of the enemy to-day; scouts report considerable force near Hardeeville; they also report the enemy clearing the road of the obstructions placed in the road by our forces. I regret that the dispatches did not go directly through. I have directed General Humes to have the line thoroughly inspected and ascertain where the difficulty is. Please accept my thanks for the newspapers.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
January 22, 1865.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: A scout has just returned from Gillisonville and states that the enemy is in force at or near Pocotaligo (could not learn whose corps). Their advance picket is in four miles of Gillisonville; base

picket at a bridge, supposed Coosawhatchie bridge; but little cavalry at Pocotaligo. All scouts, if any considerable numbers, are composed of infantry. This information derived from citizen who had been to Pocotaligo yesterday to take the oath. No news from toward Gramville or Robertsville.

Respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry Division.

MACON, *January 23, 1865.*

President DAVIS:

I have ordered out the reserve militia, over fifty years of age, who are at home, and the whole patrol force of the State, to arrest and send forward deserters and stragglers.

JOS. E. BROWN.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 23, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Our need of artillery officers, men, and harness, is very urgent. We have twelve 6-pounders, four 3-inch rifles, two 20 and two 10-pounder Parrotts, but no men or horses or harness. If you could send me a chief of artillery and some artillery officers I would try to extemporize three or four batteries and man them from the hospitals. I have adopted the line of Big Horse Creek for the defense of the north side. It is a fair line for temporary defense, but can be turned by way of Graniteville. The negroes come in slowly; the engineers are fearfully slow and the work makes no progress. If broken through on this line, should we cross the river or make toward Edgefield Court-House? It is important to know your views to make a system of defense accordingly. If I can muster but twenty men I expect to make fight, but contingencies should be provided for. I think it probable that the rains may make Sherman slope suddenly to the south side of Savaunah.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
Broxton's Bridge, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report through you to the general commanding the result of a reconnaissance made of the lines covered by my command on the Big Salkehatchie River, reaching from Dubois' Landing to Buford's Bridge. The crossing ways come in rotation as follows: Dubois' Landing (a foot log), Toby's Bluff, Roberts' Ford, Broxton's Bridge, Rivers' Bridge, Buford's Bridge, the swamp varying from ten paces to half a mile to the run of the river on the east side. The river in most places is swimming. The swamp is soft but not boggy; could with some difficulty be penetrated by horsemen in many places; in many places footmen can cross by felling timber, which is

very thick. The swamp is low and upon an average about 1,200 yards wide. At this time it is almost entirely inundated. In many places other currents than the main stream are running several feet deep. There are blind paths which would be difficult to find except through guides between all the above points. The water covering the swamp is generally shallow—say from six to eighteen inches deep. During dry seasons the river might be easily crossed at almost any point.

Respectfully,

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

[JANUARY 23, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1118.]

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 23, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: The freshet makes me somewhat apprehensive of a gun-boat raid upon Augusta. Have you sharpshooters upon the river? I had ordered a detachment from Colonel Anderson's regiment to Shell Bluff for the purpose, but as he appeared adverse to the separation of his command I have sent a local company down. I know nothing of its efficiency. I am glad to learn that you are blockading the roads. As delay is everything to us I hope that you will prosecute the work with vigor. Too much of it cannot be done.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION,
Hickory Hill, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: The position of my brigades is within five miles of Pocatigo, and in three or four days the supply of rations and forage will be exhausted in that vicinity and cannot be obtained within twenty-five or thirty miles. I desire instructions for that exigency. Let me ask that you will impress upon Captain Norton, corps quartermaster, how very needy my command are of clothing, and I would inquire why the insufficient supply expected from Augusta has not reached me. All is quiet in my front, as reported by my brigade commanders this morning.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

SPRINGFIELD, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. M. W. HANNON,
Commanding Brigade, Irerson's Division:

COLONEL: I have just learned from Lieutenant Beck, on Augusta road, that two gun-boats have landed near the mouth of Ebenezer

Creek and that their men are coming ashore. They appear to be infantry or sailors; so says he. I will go down there and see what they are doing in the morning. I have just relieved Colonel Barclay.

Respectfully,

R. F. DAVIS,
Captain, Commanding Line.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH GEORGIA CAVALRY,
January 23, 1865.

Capt. R. F. LAWTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: There is no additional news from our scouts. The nearest picket of the enemy is at King's Bridge, on the Ogeechee. Our scouts are kept in front of them. I keep no regular picket near them. If the scouts on the north side of the Ogeechee watch the enemy closely, I do not think he can make a movement without being discovered in time, if my scouts between the Ogeechee and the Cannouchee do their duty well.

I am, captain, very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN L. HARRIS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, {	ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE.
No. 19. }	<i>Richmond, January 24, 1865.</i>

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XIV. Immediately on the arrival of Maj. Gen. M. C. Butler's division of cavalry in South Carolina, Brig. Gen. P. M. B. Young, with the detachment from the division under his command, will report for duty to General Butler.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *January 24, 1865.*
(Received 8.20.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

Steps were taken some days ago in reference to that matter.
Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 24, 1865.*
Capt. L. P. GRANT,
Augusta, Ga.:

Can send you no impressing officer. If quartermasters cannot supply you you will impress for temporary use the necessary transporta-

tion to repair Georgia Railroad. We have no authority over Georgia militia. Call on Governor Brown or on General Cobb for details from Reserves, &c.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
In the Field, Broxton's Bridge, January 24, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inquire if the major-general desires me to send troops to Buford's Bridge to replace Cumming's command and First Georgia Reserves, ordered to this point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Kadesh Church, January 24, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Affairs at the front remain unchanged since my last communication. The enemy has been quiet since the tearing up of the railroad track and has made no demonstration in the last two days. His pickets, however, are still in half a mile of Pocotaligo Station, but posted so near together (seventy-five yards apart) that my scouts have been unable to penetrate within their picket-lines. A division of General Wheeler's cavalry, under General Humes, is very near me, whose orders are said to be to support me, but they decline doing any picket duty. As they have eaten out the country around here, and my transportation has been very much reduced by a number of wagons taken by Captain Lovelace, of General Conner's infantry brigade, it will be necessary for me to fall back some ten miles from my present position (in order to subsist my command), which will throw me fifteen miles from my picket base. Under these circumstances I would respectfully suggest that either my regiment or a portion of General Humes' division be sent to a position where we can subsist our troops and be more useful to the Government.

Please inform the general that immediately on the reception of his letter in regard to Captain Hauckel's wagons I sent Captain Peebles, Company K, Third South Carolina Cavalry, to carry out the instructions of the general's letter, and have heard that yesterday sixteen of the wagons passed Broxton's Bridge on their way to the general's quartermaster. I understand that he had to go all the way to Augusta, but have heard nothing from him officially as yet.

Your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

JANUARY 24, 1865—7 a. m.

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: A telegram from Lieutenant-General Hardee placed the cavalry in this district temporarily under my command. This seems to me the only arrangement that can be made. If I am to be held responsible for the defense of Augusta, the troops directly defending it ought, of course, be under the responsible commander. As I understand it, Generals Iverson and Ferguson still belong to your division, and their routine papers, rolls, &c., pass through you, but while detached are subject to my orders. I hope that your engineers press matters better than mine. The blockading of the road below and getting a strong line which Sherman cannot break through is of infinite importance.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Stafford's Cross-Roads, S. C., January 24, 1865—9.02 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Lieutenant Hinkle, of the Kentucky Brigade, has just returned from a scout. He found the enemy two miles this side of Gillisonville; he thinks about a regiment of infantry. He drove in their advance picket, and found they had log breast-works some fifty yards on the left of the road. He could not see how long upon the right. He saw no cavalry at all, no smoke or camp, and thinks they had just come out there. Major Austin, in charge of detail, began blockading the road about three-quarters of a mile this side of their breast-works, and is at work to-night with fifty men. We will continue it to-morrow. The lieutenant thinks it impossible for them to move up this road with a train, on account of the water (which is all over the country), for several days. A scout from my brigade this morning went to Beaver Dam without hearing of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 21, 1865.

Brigadier-General IVERSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: A dispatch from General Wheeler, just received, informs me that the Yankees are burning the railroad about Pocotaligo. This means a change of base, and most likely to this side of the river. It is of the utmost importance that you should delay the Yankees as long as possible, that we may be able to send you re-enforcements, and that we may remove the cotton from the city. I wish you to blockade, effectually, all the roads as low down as possible, especially the roads which turn Brier Creek. Press forward the work with the utmost expedition. There is no time to be lost.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENNESSEE CAVALRY BRIGADE,
January 24, 1865.

Lieut. CHARLES A. ELDER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division:

LIEUTENANT: Lieutenant Wall, of the First Tennessee, who went in charge of the scout this morning in the direction of Pocotaligo, has just returned with three prisoners that he caught beyond McPhersonville at the "swamp," which is two miles this side of Pocotaligo. These prisoners say that they belong to Major-General Mower's division; that they were detailed at division headquarters as a guard, and were outside of the pickets with a wagon getting wood for the general's quarters when captured. They also report the other two divisions (Major-General Leggett's and Belknap's) of the Seventeenth Corps (Frank Blair's) at Pocotaligo; also that General Frank Blair's headquarters are one mile and a half beyond Pocotaligo Station. They also say that they do not know where Kilpatrick's cavalry is; that they left it near Savannah, and know of no mounted troops in this State except a portion of the Seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry, which is camped with the Seventeenth Corps; that they left the Fifteenth Corps at Beaufort and the Fourteenth and Twentieth in Savannah.

I am, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

G. W. MCKENZIE,
Colonel, Commanding.

CHARLESTON, S. C., January 25, 1865.

General BEAUREGARD:

Enemy made a demonstration on Little Britain Island yesterday. Re-enforcements for Charleston are needed immediately. Send me, if possible, 3,000 men at once. All quiet on the Combahee. I will keep you fully advised.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., January 25, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Mobile, Ala.:

Lee's corps, now passing through, is destitute of clothing. I shall order all to be had here to be issued to them. Cheatham is, I learn, in like condition. I will telegraph to General Lawton to make provision for them at Augusta. General Ripley's leave has been revoked and he is ordered here.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, January 25, 1865. (Received 27th.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

We are proceeding to execute orders in relation [to] slaves. Delay occasioned by several causes, chiefly by supposed difficulty of State action, which I do not think exists. I have been in field for several months.

JAS. CHESNUT, JR.

SALKEHATCHIE STATION, *January 25, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee directs me to say that he desires you to keep yourself in communication with Major-General McLaws, who is now on the Combahee, with headquarters near the Salkehatchie railroad bridge, and if the enemy should cross at or near this point he wishes you to cross a portion of your cavalry. As soon as you can spare Colcock's cavalry you had better send it to report to General McLaws on this side of the river. If you think it advisable you can destroy the bridges above Broxton's Bridge as you retire.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

D. H. POOLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 25, 1865.

General J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: The burning of ties at Pocotaligo seems to indicate a change of base, either to the Augusta side of the river or to Wilmington. It is of the utmost importance to ascertain the truth of the reports of the scouts.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

JANUARY 25, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: It seems to me that the report of the scout in regard to the burning at Pocotaligo is of the utmost importance, and that no pains should be lost in verifying [it]. If the thing be so it means a change of base to this side of the river or to Wilmington.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Launtonville, January 25, 1865—7.25 p. m.

General L. McLAWS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Scouts from the Georgia side of Savannah River report the Fourteenth Army Corps is being encamped at Shaver's Swamp and as having sent scouts to Station No. 2 on Central Railroad. They state that loaded wagons were brought with them which were [unloaded and sent] back to Savannah for more. That the enemy say they intend moving forward as soon as the weather will permit. The boats reported day before yesterday as moving up the Savannah River are now said to be small ones, which were going for wood and provisions. They had gone as high up as Grovenstein's Landing. General McCoy thinks the enemy are preparing to make a raid into Southwestern Georgia, though he gives no special evidences as to what his opinion is based on. Other scouts think that Kilpatrick is concentrating his cavalry in Savannah, and citizens say the Yankees tell them they do not intend making any

more raids west of the Ogeechee. It was thought if the enemy did make the raid which General McCoy feared, the object would be to liberate the prisoners at Andersonville. I think the enemy will not send any cavalry westward. Scouts from near Pocotaligo report that the Seventeenth and part of the Fifteenth Corps were near that place and the remainder of the Fifteenth at Beaufort. The [enemy send] scouts daily a few miles [*sic*] Grahamville and Gillisonville, but I hear of no farther advance. I have the roads so thoroughly blockaded that it is difficult for my scouts to get through to see the enemy.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Springfield, Ga., January 25, 1865.

Col. M. W. HANNON:

COLONEL: Since my report yesterday evening scouts came in and report the enemy on the move. They were on Middle Ground and McCall roads, eight miles from here. Lieutenant Ward's scouts captured one. The enemy were moving in direction of Middle Ground road. The captured was infantry. We see a camp-fire about seven miles from here. I am confident we will see them early in the morning. From all information it is the Fourteenth Army Corps moving in direction of Sister's Ferry; some say to Augusta.

Respectfully,

R. F. DAVIS,
Captain, Commanding Line.

CHARLESTON, *January 26, 1865.*

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

An order received to-day from General S. Cooper directs return to North Carolina of the Fiftieth Regiment and Tenth Battalion. They are almost the only regular troops holding line of the Combahee; the remainder, Reserves, are much dissatisfied at being detained out of their own States. The withdrawal might cause the loss of that line and result in great [*sic*].

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted for the information of the President.
I have directed the order to be [*sic*].

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 26, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston:

Letters and dispatches from Richmond are very urgent in regard to forwarding supplies to that point. Major Macon, of the tithe department, reports that stragglers from the cavalry, local cavalry companies, and recruiting camps for broken-down horses are absorbing very largely

the tithes of the State. He tells me that sixty men are at Warrenton, with their horses, claiming to belong to Brigadier-General Williams' staff. These recruiting camps are real nuisances. I saw one where they had been two months, and there had been no improvement among their horses. I never saw such a set of scare-crows. Citizens told me the men straggled over the country and for days the horses were neither fed nor watered. What we need is efficient cavalry, not immense bands of plunderers scattered over the country. Nine-tenths of the so-called cavalry never see and cannot be induced to see an armed Yankee. They are hundreds of miles off plundering and professing to organize. If we are ever starved into submission it will [be] through these fellows. What I wish to propose is the getting together of this organized or semi-organized mob and putting them into infantry service. Major Macon tells me that he is getting nothing from Central Georgia, as there is a large command under a man named Glenn at or near Athens consuming the title. I don't know who Glenn is, his rank, antecedents, or nature of his command. Ought not the attention of the Secretary of War be called to this great evil, and to the necessity of disbanding or changing into infantry this omniverous mob before they bring a famine upon the fighting men of the army?

Respectfully and truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 26, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Order Colcock's regiment to this side of the Combahee. Inform General Wheeler.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
January 26, 1865.

Colonel HARRISON,
Commanding Cavalry Brigade:

COLONEL: I received an order last night from General Humes to co-operate with you in blocking the roads, and retire back when that was done. Yesterday when your adjutant came down below to commence blocking I asked him to suspend operations, as I had received no orders to fall back. Now, however, I am prepared to co-operate with you and will thank you to send a squad, with as many axes as you can collect. We will begin operations at Ferguson's Branch. When will you be prepared to fall back; how far, and by what road will you retire? Forage is so scarce that it would be best for us to take different roads, if possible.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

*This communication was captured by the command of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, Seventeenth Army Corps, and by that general forwarded to his corps commander (General Blair).

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 26, 1865.*

Major-General **WHEELER**,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: It seems to me that the orders to Iverson to re-enforce Ferguson in case of an advance upon Southwest Georgia leave us here in a very exposed position. There is nothing else upon the line of Brier Creek but Iverson's command. Should it be moved entirely or in part Augusta is uncovered. I hope that his orders will be modified until the arrival of re-enforcements and the sending of infantry down.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 26, 1865.

General **WHEELER**,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: The order to Iverson to re-enforce Ferguson in case of an advance upon the latter would, if executed, uncover Augusta. I have no other troops than Iverson's upon Brier Creek. I hope that the order will be modified until re-enforcements arrive and I can get infantry upon Brier Creek.

Respectfully and truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 26, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (two dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1118.]

*Strength of Iverson's division, Wheeler's corps, Brig. Gen. Alfred Iverson, C. S. Army, commanding, January 26, 1865.**

Troops.	Effective total.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
Hannon's brigade <i>a</i>	545	879	1,564
Lewis' brigade <i>b</i>	327	524	1,069
Total.....	872	1,403	2,633

a Only 410 serviceable horses.

b Only 281 serviceable horses.

GREEN'S CUT, *January 27, 1865—8 p. m.*

Brigadier-General **IVERSON**,
Commanding Cavalry

GENERAL: Troops are reaching Augusta from Hood's army. It is of infinite importance that you should delay them by fighting them vigorously. The whole of Georgia is full of bitter complaints of Wheeler's cavalry. I hope that your stout and gallant resistance will redeem the odium cast upon the command. I learned to-day, to my great surprise, that there were no fortifications at Brannon's Bridge. I have

*As shown by inspection reports.

ordered out a party to-night to go down and begin work. When you cross over destroy the bridge effectually and hold the crossings at all hazards. Let me know your line of retreat, and keep me constantly posted in regard to all movements. Organize an efficient corps of scouts and put them under an officer who is not afraid. I don't want to know what citizens say, but what scouts see. We must not be deceived by false information.

I cannot use too strong language in urging upon you the importance of delaying the enemy by fighting them. If you but draw a line of battle every mile you will compel him to do the same, and thus give us time, which is everything to our success. I once heard General Jackson say that with one regiment he would engage to keep any force marching on one road from advancing more than five miles per day. If you divide your command and hold each road you can check the Yankees until our forces come up. Augusta depends upon this delay.

Yours, truly and respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

P. S.—Don't let it be known to citizens that re-enforcements are coming up.

MONTGOMERY, *January 27, 1865.*
(Received 6.40.)

General S. COOPER:

If General Hardee's telegram of the 9th instant refers to condition and conduct of Wheeler's cavalry while in Georgia he is positively misinformed, as is proven by communication to these headquarters.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[JANUARY 27, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1069.]

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 27, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

General Hill directed to hold, subject to your orders, 3,000 effectives, provided enemy is not advanced on Augusta.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }	ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 22. }	<i>Richmond, Va., January 27, 1865.</i>

* * * * *

XLVI. The Fiftieth Regiment and Tenth Battalion North Carolina Volunteers will remain on duty in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida until further orders.

* * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 27, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

Assume command of troops as they arrive at Augusta and report numbers to General Hardee. You will send 3,000 effectives to General Hardee should he call for them, provided enemy is not advancing on Augusta. So advise him.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
January 27, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The enemy advanced a force about three miles up this road yesterday, which we checked and held back all day. From information received it appears that this force was sent to protect their flank on this side while their [main] body went into the swamp opposite Mrs. McTier's with pontoons to try and cross the river. They bogged down and were compelled to give it up and retire. My scouts report that they have all gone back to Pocotaligo. Their force was reported to be 7,000 infantry and 250 cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

I am now reporting to General Wheeler, but will keep General McLaws posted as to the enemy's movements in his front. I understand the general ordered Lowry's company to report to me a week since. They have not done so.

C. J. C.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Salkehatchie, January 28, 1865.

Colonel FISER:

General McLaws directs that you make inquiries about the crossing mentioned within and return this paper by courier.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. B. LAMAR, JR.,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

CAPTAIN: There is a ford in the river near McTier's house. The most direct road is to leave the Broxton's Bridge road near Benton's house, distance one mile and a half. Path very good.

Respectfully,

JNO. C. FISER,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Whippy Swamp, January 27, 1865—3 o'clock.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have received orders to fall back and block up the roads behind me. I am now about seven miles from Broxton's Bridge. The

enemy advanced four miles from the railroad yesterday with infantry and cavalry, but were held in check at that point after a skirmish, in which I had one man severely wounded. The cavalry fell back toward evening, but I have not heard up to this time whether the infantry have retired.

Yours, very respectfully,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

[JANUARY 27, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (two dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, pp. 1118, 1119.]

MONTGOMERY, *January 28, 1865.*

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

It is deemed essential to military operations that the railroad from Milledgeville to Mayfield be speedily finished. It is graded and the bridges completed, except over the Oconee. Major Hottle, assistant quartermaster, an active and intelligent officer, accustomed to such work, should be at once put upon it. Am I authorized to have the work done and assign him to it?

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

MONTGOMERY, *January 28, 1865.*
(Received 5.30.)

General S. COOPER:

I am hurrying troops forward as rapidly as bad condition of roads will permit. I will leave here to-morrow or next day. Am confined to house by severe cold.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 28, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Montgomery, Ala.:

General Hill reports from Brier Creek enemy advancing on all roads from Savannah on west side of river. I think your presence of extreme importance at this juncture.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*
Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

I will leave here soon as my health will permit. I am hurrying forward troops rapidly as bad condition of roads will permit. Meanwhile support General Hill to full extent of your means.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHARLESTON, *January 28, 1865.*

(Received 11 o'clock 29th.)

General S. COOPER:

Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill has been assigned to command of the District of Georgia. He has no staff. Please supply him.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 28, 1865.*

(Received 11.10 29th.)

General S. COOPER:

General Beauregard telegraphs that he is coming in person to Augusta. Will his command, as recently, extend over this department? I ask merely for information.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[JANUARY 28, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1069.]

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*Lient. Gen. R. TAYLOR, *Meridian, Miss.:*

Enemy moving on Augusta. Hurry up all troops from Tupelo and Meridian by quickest route.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MERIDIAN, MISS., *January 28, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

Every energy is being used to push troops forward rapidly. They are being sent both via Selma and Mobile as fast as capacity of the railroad will permit.

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 28, 1865.*General BEAUREGARD, *Montgomery, Ala.:*

The enemy is moving rapidly upon Augusta. Hope that troops will be hurried up.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL, *Augusta, Ga.:*

If General Ripley should be in Augusta detain him and order him to report to General Cheatham on arrival, for assignment to Gist's brigade.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

Should there be bayonets in Augusta for troops arriving there order their distribution at once.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. C. L. STEVENSON,
Augusta, Ga.:

Report to General D. H. Hill for orders.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Macon, Ga.:

Please send forward rapidly all troops to Augusta.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Col. L. VON ZINKEN,
Columbus, Ga.:

Will have you notified of departure of troops. Report each day number of troops arriving at Columbus from this place, and commands. It is reported that one-half which leave here go off. General B[eauregard] will not leave to-morrow. Will advise you when I shall be with him.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Col. L. VON ZINKEN,
Columbus, Ga.:

Please see that troops are not delayed at Columbus. Hurry them on to Augusta.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, Ga., January 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH,
Commanding Georgia Militia:

GENERAL: Iverson reports the enemy six miles this side of Springfield at 1 o'clock yesterday and still advancing on two roads—the Augusta and Middle Ground. Iverson is at Brannon's Bridge. It is

important that your command support him at the lower crossings before the enemy gets there. I hope to get off from here on Monday. In the meantime assume command of all the troops on Brier Creek by my orders. Cook's battalion of 100 men, under Captain Sims, at Rae's and Godwyn's Bridges, will be subject to your orders. Several hundred negroes have been ordered down to the lower crossings. Post the troops and set the negroes to work at such points as your judgment dictates.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 28, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. L. McLAWS:

Send all the Georgia Reserves in Harrison's brigade, via Midway, to Augusta.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 29, 1865.

Captain ELLIOTT:

Send the order by courier, to ride six miles per hour.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 28, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

If you can spare Fiser's brigade send it at once to Rivers' Bridge to replace the Georgia Reserves. It is necessary to send the latter to Georgia to oppose the enemy moving upon Augusta. Answer.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Effective strength of troops commanded by Col. George P. Harrison, Jr., January 28, 1865.

Command.	Commander.	Effective total.	Effective aggregate.	Station.
32d Georgia Regiment	Lieutenant-Colonel Bacon ..	324	346	Rivers' Bridge.
47th Georgia Regiment	Captain Thompson	241	259	Do.
5th Georgia Regiment	Colonel Daniel	255	278	Broxton's Bridge.
3d Georgia Reserves	Colonel Moore	390	416	Do.
1st South Carolina Cavalry	Captain Trezevant	89	71	Do.
Cumming's command	Colonel Cumming	398	417	Do.
1st Georgia Reserves	Lieutenant-Colonel Neely ..	46	52	Do.
4th Battalion Light Artillery	Captain Earle	357	366	Do.
Company D, 3d South Carolina Cavalry.	Lieutenant Erwin	22	24	Courier-line from this place to Midway, S. C.
Total		2,122	2,229	

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Near Broxton's Bridge, January 28, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: In accordance with instructions I have the honor to report that I have arrived at this place, with the detachment of my regiment now under my command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

CHARLESTON, *January 28, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton has reported for duty. What command do you recommend for him? General Hardee thinks of giving him Butler's and Iverson's divisions.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 28, 1865—5 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: I agree with you fully that the Yankees will not, in all probability, make an advance upon this side without a simultaneous movement upon your side. But General Iverson retired so very precipitately and so far that they may be tempted to seize the crossing of Brier Creek to-day. I sent him a peremptory order not to do so, but to delay the Yankees on the other side by fighting them. With determined men in their front the Yankees cannot advance more than five miles per day. Delay is now everything to us, as we are hourly looking for troops from the West. If you are in communication with Iverson please impress upon him the great importance of checking the Yankees. This falling back without a fight ought to be stopped; it will ruin the bravest men in the world and make them timid. Nothing heard from Iverson to-day.

Very respectfully and truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 28, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (three dispatches), relating to operations, see Part I, p. 1119.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 28, 1865—5.15 p. m.

General IVERSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: We have heard nothing from you since 8 a. m. yesterday morning. It is important that you should keep us continually posted as to the movements of the Yankees. Get bold scouts who are not afraid and send them out. I don't want to know what citizens say,

but what the scouts see with their own eyes. Without reliable information we are working in the dark, and may lose the city. Destroy the bridge leading across Brier Creek from Jacksonborough to the Savannah at Mathews' Bluff (I think). If you do not intend to cross at Brannon's Bridge, destroy it effectually, leaving 100 men to guard the crossing till our infantry can get there. G. W. Smith is now at Green's Cut. He is directed to hold the lower crossings of Brier Creek. Veteran troops are arriving, and we only want time to get them in position. I implore you to delay the miscreants by fighting them.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 28, 1865.*
(Received 11.10 o'clock 29th.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

The local organizations of Colonel Rains' men, the factories, and others, refuse to obey my orders to come out, and claim that they are only required to obey either your order or the commanding general of the department. Have I authority to command them? Am I to judge of the emergency?

HOWELL COBB,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 29, 1865.—For Beauregard to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1046.]

[JANUARY 29, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1069.]

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 29, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

Am hurrying troops forward rapidly as bad condition of roads will permit. I'll leave here in the morning to join you. Inform General Hardee to that effect.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 29, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

How many field batteries will you require with troops going to you? Should you have immediate need of them apply to General Cobb for Palmer's battalion.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 29, 1865.*

COMMANDING OFFICER AT MAYFIELD, GA.:

What is the cause of detention of troops at Mayfield? They must be hurried through.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 29, 1865.*

Col. L. VON ZINKEN,
Columbus, Ga.:

We leave in the morning.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 29, 1865—2 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: General Iverson wrote on Thursday that he was about to withdraw from below Springfield, that the Fourteenth Corps was before him. On Friday morning he wrote from Buck Creek, some thirty or forty miles in his rear. On Friday he continued his retreat and crossed Brier Creek. I have never known anything like it in my life. It has caused me great annoyance and embarrassment. The information from Iverson is absolutely nothing. I don't know whether there is any serious advance or not. It would be fatal to neglect these sensational reports and yet very vexatious to be deceived by them. There is something terribly wrong in our cavalry organization. They never think of delaying the Yankees by fighting them. The simple business is to get out of their way. Eighteen hundred men of Lee's corps are looked for to-day. Have been delayed three days at Mayfield waiting for transportation. There is the greatest inefficiency or basest treachery in our railroad department. General Beauregard orders me to send you 3,000 men upon your requisition, if there be no advance upon Augusta. I think that the movement will be upon both sides of the river and that their supplies will come by river. I need an ordnance officer very much.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 29, 1865—1 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH,
Commanding Line of Brier Creek:

GENERAL: The last dispatch from Iverson, dated 4 p. m. 28th, reports all quiet. I have informed him that you were in command on Brier Creek. When you get in position below and have re-enforcements enough to hold the crossings I think that you had better throw Iverson across the creek and push him down nearer the enemy. It is important to keep the telegraph line to Millen covered, as it is our only line. I

will leave here to-morrow, or at farthest Wednesday. Should anything exciting occur will come down at once. Please keep me apprised of all changes. There is a courier-line from here to Green's Cut, and there ought to be one from there to Iverson's headquarters. His jump of forty miles in retreat is the event of the war.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 29, 1865.*

General G. W. SMITH:

GENERAL: Your note by Major Williford has been received. In regard to your want of transportation, I have only to plead my absence and belief that you and General Fry had arranged that matter. I have sent an order through you appointing Capt. Philip Lewis brigade quartermaster of all the transportation on Brier Creek. As I learn that Iverson has a surplusage of wagons, and as you are in charge of the front you can appropriate as many as you need. In regard to your being in a pocket, the line of Brier Creek was selected by General Beauregard and not by myself. You were sent to the lower crossings for two reasons. First, that no other troops were on hand to be sent to those points; and second, that the Western troops might be kept in hand to be thrown across to Hardee's assistance in accordance with Beauregard's direction. I can't see how any other disposition could be made. Nine hundred men under Colonel Coltart have been sent up to Green's Cut with orders to report to you. When there are men enough on the line to hold it Iverson ought to be thrown across the creek to guard our right flank and the telegraph line.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

JANUARY 29, 1865.

General McLAWS:

SIR: I found it impossible to cross the river below the railroad, so I came back and crossed the same night at the old bridge with a party detailed to burn it. Yesterday and last night I went to McPhersonville and as far as the Coosawhatchie Swamps and find that the enemy still front us as they did a week ago. They moved up with a large force on the road leading from Pocotaligo to our pontoon bridge on Thursday last, carried a quantity of pontoons with them, apparently intending to cross, but from high water they returned to their old camps near Pocotaligo about midnight of the same day, and there they are yet. I, with my party (save the bearer of this), will remain on this side of the river and watch their movements and report promptly.

T. M. PAYSINGER,
Sergeant.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 29, 1865—10 a. m.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I heard last night from General Iverson. He wrote from Brannon's Bridge on Brier Creek. He had come back at a single

bound from below Springfield to Brier Creek. How is the enemy to be delayed by such operations? How are we to get information of his movements? I have known nothing in the war so remarkable as this movement. Surely it is the duty of the cavalry to delay and harass the enemy, and if this be not done the most serious disasters may and, in fact, must occur.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 29, 1865.*

Brigadier-General IVERSON, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: Your communication of yesterday, hour not named, has just been received. Please name the hour in all dispatches. Your precipitate retirement under the belief of your being pressed by overwhelming numbers has led to much embarrassment. No ground ought to have been lost without being disputed, as delay is everything to us. Major-General Smith has gone down to Brier Creek and has been ordered to assume command until I go to the front. Veteran troops will soon be in position on that line and then you must be thrown across the creek on our right flank. You must now guard the telegraph line by Millen; it is the only communication with the west and south. You must keep scouts on the river to watch it. The flag of truce was a mere Yankee trick. I have always forbidden its reception unless coming from the commanding general. The Yankees wished to find out who was in command. The engineers with negro force have been sent to the lower crossings. The fortifications must be according to their views.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Augusta, January 29, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 28th just received. From all we can learn we are somewhat puzzled to know what Sherman is about. The movement on this side does not develop itself. Part of Lee's corps arrived to-day and the remainder reported on the way. General Hill has returned from Brier Creek, but will probably go down again soon. General Beauregard will be here in three or four days.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. D. FRY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FERGUSON'S BRIGADE,
Mount Vernon, Montgomery County, Ga., January 29, 1865.

First Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,

Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor respectfully to report that in pursuance of and obedience to paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 9, from corps headquarters, dated Grahamville, S. C., January 13, 1865, I moved my brigade from Robertsville to Augusta; thence to this point, via Pageley's Bridge on Brier Creek, Fenn's Bridge over the Ogeechee, and Long's Bridge on Williamson's Swamp Creek. This was the only

route at all practicable, in consequence of the recent heavy rains and the swollen condition of every river and creek in this portion of the State. It has been very difficult to procure forage and subsistence. On reaching this point, represented by the people above to be abundant, I have been able to get a half ration of corn. Beyond this place in the direction of the Gulf road and toward Savannah there is nothing. The accounts from my scouts and intelligent citizens agree that I cannot subsist one day in any portion of this territory. The Yankees have taken everything from the country between the Ochoopee and Altamaha Rivers and Savannah, extending their foraging expeditions along the Ogeechee to the center of Bulloch County.

Scouts report Lieutenant-Colonel Harris at Nail's Ferry, and General McCoy at railroad bridge; both on the other side of the Altamaha River. There is one company of State militia at Walthourville. This disposition of the troops must have been necessitated by the entire want of forage or subsistence between the Ogeechee and Altamaha south and east of line before mentioned, as, from all accounts, the small company at Walthourville will not be able to subsist where it is.

Finding it impossible to subsist my command or forage my horses along or near the line of operations stated in Special Orders, No. 9, I have determined to move, and will move across the Oconee at Dublin and camp on Turkey Creek, where I can remain several days, until I can hear from you. I will put myself in communication with the troops south of me, and scout the desolate country between this point and Savannah, so that I may be able to ascertain speedily the movement of the enemy and pursue all raiding parties moving west. I omitted to say there is no crossing of the Altamaha below this place at present on account of high water. Citizens report that the railroad below is being torn up to build the road from Thomasville to Albany.

Awaiting further orders, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. FERGUSON,
Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., January 30, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Montgomery, Ala.:

General Gilmer reports railroad from Milledgeville to Mayfield could not possibly be finished under four or five months, much of it not being graded, and work very heavy. All means at command had better be directed to completion of connection from West Point to Atlanta.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865—3 p. m.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:
(Care General Cobb, Macon, Ga.)

The following, addressed to the general, just received:

MERIDIAN, *January 30, 1865.*

Sherman's movements render a victory necessary to us at once and it will require all our means to insure it. I can resist a raid without Stewart's corps and cannot fight a battle with it against an army; and French's division is very weak, but will

enable me to fully garrison Mobile and Choctaw Bluff. The remainder of the corps should go east at once to insure success there. We can thus save Lee's communications, raise the siege of Mobile, should it be invested, or be prepared to meet Thomas when he advances in the spring. Last of Cheatham's corps, except furloughed men, will leave here on Wednesday. I find upon inquiry that his Tennessee division has been furloughed until 10th and Brantley's and Sharp's brigades until the 12th proximo. Will report further about artillery.

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

OPELIKA, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Brigadier-General MACKALL,
Macon, Ga. :

Hold Palmer's battalion in readiness to move on General D. H. Hill's order. General Beauregard desires that you will procure 150 horses for the artillery now en route. If they cannot be had from Majors Smith and Wheeler's horse camp at Macon they must be impressed. General Beauregard will reach Macon to-morrow.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Macon, Ga. :

If any difficulty occurs about railroad transportation of troops let them march. It is important they should move forward without delay.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

COMMANDANT OF POST AT MAYFIELD, GA. :

If any difficulty occurs in transportation of troops let them march to Camak and meet cars. If difficulty should occur there, let them march to Augusta. The object is expedition.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Maj. E. H. EWING,
Inspector Field Transportation, Selma, Ala. :

Have you a train for pontoon ready? Required in Georgia.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Col. G. W. BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga. :

Major Ewing telegraphs pontoon train prepared at Selma is being sent to Demopolis. Captain Morris, chief engineer, has charge.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Charleston, S. C.:

Beware enemy from Savannah does not cross river and turn Combahee line above Barnwell Court-House.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

(Same to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, Augusta, Ga.)

CHARLESTON, *January 30, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

The following dispatch has just been received from Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, Augusta:

Nine hundred men from the West have arrived; one-half deserted.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 30, 1865.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: Iverson's scouts think that the Yankee force which came up on this side and supposed to be the Fourteenth Army Corps has all crossed at Sister's Ferry. I don't know his scouts and how reliable they may be. The troops are coming in very slowly. How happens it that whenever there is an emergency for the movement of troops there is something wrong with railroads? Is it because superintendents and employes are nearly all Yankees? So I think. The troops arriving are destitute of everything—arms, clothing, &c. Nine hundred arrived out of 1,600 started; the rest deserted.

I send you order of Sherman. What action should be taken in the premises? An ordnance officer and inspector-general are much needed.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
[*January 30, 1865.*]

General G. W. SMITH,
Godwyn's Bridge:

GENERAL: General Deas, with 900 men, is at Green's Cut. He has been directed to report to you. As he is without transportation he will have to be kept near the railroad, and so with all the troops sent down. It will be necessary to send out scouts to the river to watch a crossing above you. Mathews' Bluff is the lowest point occupied by us on the river. Wheeler reports the occupation of Robertsville yesterday. I wish you would inquire of Iverson whether the ferry-boat at Hudson's Ferry has been destroyed. The negro force ought to be guarded. They are deserting rapidly. The troops ought also to be put to work.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 30, 1865—8 p. m.*

General STEVENSON:

GENERAL: I think that there can be no doubt that Sherman is advancing in earnest and that the affair will be decided this week. I hope that you will keep your troops in motion and not wait transportation by rail. The railroad is entirely in the hands of Yankees and they delay every movement. More than half of the two advanced brigades have deserted. Can nothing be done to prevent it? I send this by an officer with the hope that the troops may be hurried up.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. HOWELL COBB,
Macon, Ga.:

General Beauregard left this morning for Macon.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
In the Field, One Mile and a half from McTier's Mill,
January 30, 1865—11.30 a. m.

Major-General MCLAWS:

GENERAL: The enemy advanced early this morning (infantry and cavalry) and drove my pickets from the McTier's Mill Creek; have crossed and are advancing. No artillery yet discovered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. F. ANDERSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Fourth Tennessee Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
Broxton's Bridge, January 30, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Reports from the front represent the enemy as skirmishing with our cavalry (Wheeler's) at McTier's Mill at 10 a. m. General Wheeler has a regiment in the position where Colonel Colcock was, only farther back this way. I have sent a squadron of Colonel Colcock's regiment with his section of horse artillery to lower crossing of Whippy Swamp; will take up the other crossings as enemy advances.

Respectfully,

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

LATER—3.30 p. m.

Our cavalry have fallen back; enemy this side the mill, with cavalry and infantry.

HARRISON,
Colonel.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 30, 1865—11 a. m.*

Major-General WHEELER, *Commanding Cavalry*:

GENERAL: I send you reports of scouts in regard to the crossing at Sister's Ferry. The troops from the West are coming in very slowly. Hope that you can delay these Yankees till they arrive. If no movement on this side will send everything to your support. Hope that your fortifications are pressed vigorously forward.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Augusta, January 30, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER, *Commanding Cavalry*:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 29th instant just received. I thank you for the prompt information furnished of the movements of enemy. Troops are now arriving from the West and I hope we will soon have force enough to meet the enemy on either side of the river. Have no doubt you will hold them in check long enough for General Hill to get them in position. General Beauregard left Montgomery this morning for Augusta and ought to be here on Thursday. The good people of Augusta are much exercised in relation to the rumors of negotiations for peace. I believe that Hunter, Stephens, and Campbell have been sent on some mission to the Yankee Government; but what they go to propose has not transpired. If we could whip Sherman it would help the cause wonderfully just now.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. D. FRY,
Brigadier-General.

[JANUARY 30, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1121.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, January 30, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. L. MCLAWS, *Commanding, &c.*:

GENERAL: A prisoner captured at 1 o'clock this evening says the Twentieth Corps [is at Robjertsville, and that the [rumor in] camp is that they are going to Augusta and that they will remain in camp to-day to learn what force there is in their immediate front and cut out the obstructions.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
January 30, 1865.

Division, brigade, and regimental commanders will see that all cotton is rolled out of the gin-houses and burned as they fall back.

By order of Major-General Wheeler:

D. C. JENKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
January 30, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: The enemy are still crossing the Savannah River. The Twentieth Corps is now crossing at a point a little above Sister's Ferry; the prisoners say not at Sister's Ferry in consequence of torpedoes at that point. They further say that the Twentieth Corps was crossing the river at a point below Sister's Ferry but stopped on account of some accident happening to their pontoons. When it occurred, an entire regiment, they state, was lost.

Very respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,
ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

These statements are made by prisoners belonging to the Twentieth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, January 30, 1865—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General IVERSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your falling back so far did seem to me most extraordinary. You may have been justified by the nature of the country, but I still think that, under your instructions, you committed an error. It certainly has caused me no little annoyance and embarrassment. However, as I knew you personally, and did not know your command, I thought it must be due to the material with which you were dealing. In this I may have done them, as well as you, injustice. If so, I am sorry for it. But my experience with the cavalry in this war has not been favorable, and I have made no secret of my opinion. I hope to be on Brier Creek this week and to have an interview with you.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

· MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 31, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Following received:

RICHMOND, *January 30, 1865.*

Major-General SMITH:

All the available resources in materials and labor should be first applied to completion of Georgia and the West Point railroads. Nothing should delay these.

J. F. GILMER,
Major-General.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MACON, GA., January 31, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. R. WADDY,
Chief Ordnance Officer:

COLONEL: I am instructed by General Beauregard to direct that you remain for the present in Macon and see that the batteries of the Army of Tennessee are properly supplied and equipped. When done you will order them at once to Augusta, moving by rail as far as practicable.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MACON, GA., January 31, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Commanding, &c., Macon, Ga.:

GENERAL: Lieut. Col. J. R. Waddy has been ordered to remain in Macon for the purpose of supplying the wants of the batteries at this place and those of the Army of Tennessee passing through. Please afford them every facility to accomplish this end.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, January 31, 1865.

General HARDEE:

GENERAL: I have just got a telegram from General Cobb that Palmer's battalion of artillery, which had been ordered here, is without horses. Hood's troops are coming without artillery. I have improvised two batteries of four guns each. It is all I have. We cannot hold the line of Brier Creek without more artillery.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 31, 1865.

Maj. NORMAN W. SMITH,
Quartermaster, Augusta, Ga.:

MAJOR: I am directed by the major-general commanding [to say] that Colonel Edmonds informs him that the troops are greatly delayed at Milledgeville for want of transportation; that the wagons at the time of starting of his (Colonel Edmonds') brigade were then one day behind time, and had not then arrived. Furthermore, that the wagons [were] delayed at Mayfield for the purpose of taking passengers and furniture of refugees; that many wagons encountered were so loaded. I am directed to say that you must attend to this matter, and remove the obstacles to a speedy transportation of troops.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. W. MEMMINGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
Broxton's Bridge, January 31, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The following note from Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, commanding Fourth Tennessee Cavalry, has just been received:

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
January 30, 1865—12 m.

COLONEL: My scouts returned from rear of the enemy and report a large encampment of the enemy, consisting of infantry, artillery, and cavalry near the junction of Salkehatchie and old Union roads. Their encampment indicates a large force from two miles and a half to three miles long. Their artillery and wagons are distinctly heard, also drums, by our pickets. They are still busily engaged in repairing McTier's Bridge. I have other scouts yet in their rear.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. F. ANDERSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

I ascertained accurately that a heavy column of the enemy has passed up the river road, and in my opinion will number about 15,000. They have with them artillery, wagons, and Mackinaw boats. Camped on the night of the 30th about nine miles south of Pocotaligo on said road. A prisoner in the commissary department reports that they have 30 days' rations of bacon and crackers and 200 cattle to each division. A train of empty wagons went back to Pocotaligo on the evening of the 30th, and prisoners said were going to the boat landing for clothing. Prisoners report that the column advancing up the river consists of the Seventeenth Corps, one division of the Fifteenth Corps, and Foster's command, and that they left at Pocotaligo three divisions of the Fifteenth Corps. They had a large wagon train heavily loaded.

SALKEHATCHIE, *January 31, 1865.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Sergeant Paysinger, who came in this morning, makes the above report. He captured 5 Yankees and 2 negroes. He further states that the three divisions of the Fifteenth Corps are encamped on the railroad three miles from this place. The enemy have not shown themselves in force in my front. All quiet.

I am, captain, with great respect, your obedient servant,

E. T. STACKHOUSE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Conner's Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 31, 1865—1.15 p. m.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I would like to have your views in regard to the position of the troops arriving. Two brigades have reached here and have been sent down to line of Brier Creek. I am inclined to think that one corps ought to be sent to you, and one kept on line of Brier Creek until the

movement is fully developed. It seems now to me that an attempt will be made to break through between Three Runs and Salkehatchie. If you can delay the rascals a week all will be right.

Very truly, &c.,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 31, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1121.]

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION,
Hickory Hill, January 31, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: It is now evident that the enemy are going to Broxton's Bridge, up the Salkehatchie road. The force is infantry, artillery, and cavalry, I think the Seventeenth and Fifteenth Corps, or at least one of those corps. Col. Paul Anderson and Colonel Colcock are on that road, the latter as far back as Whippy Swamp, which is prepared for blockading. Colonel Colcock is ordered to fall back to Broxton's Bridge from Whippy Swamp when forced by the enemy. I have ordered Colonel Anderson to retire in the direction of Crockettville as he completes the blockading and as forced by the enemy. General Wheeler ordered me to collect my division at Hickory Hill, which I have done, except Anderson's regiment. This morning I received a note from Col. George Harrison, at Broxton's Bridge, addressed to Colonel Anderson and requesting him to delay the enemy as much as possible in order that they might complete their works at Broxton's Bridge. I would concentrate a brigade, at least, with Colonel Anderson but for the order of General Wheeler to collect my command here. Not knowing what may be the necessity for my command to join General Wheeler, I will keep it here for further instructions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS,
January 31, 1865.

Brigadier-General IVERSON, *Commanding Cavalry, &c.:*

GENERAL: A telegram from Lieutenant-General Hardee places all the cavalry in this district under my command. You will continue as heretofore to communicate information to General Wheeler; what it is important for him to know. I wish you to have a courier-line established to the nearest telegraphic station, and report, if practicable, daily; at all events, to communicate all movements and changes in your front. I send down my aide, Lieutenant Trenholm, to get your returns, statements of artillery, &c. If compelled to fall back, dispute obstinately the crossings of Brier Creek and keep its headwaters well watched against a flank movement. Have preparations made at all the bridges for burning them. I think that the lower bridges ought to be thoroughly destroyed now. Let me know the position of your whole command. If you have no men on the river place some there with orders to prevent the ascent of gun-boats. See that your system of scouts is efficient. Those men often loiter about the country, or worse,

plunder our people, relying upon the citizens for all information of the enemy they ever get. Select bold and enterprising men for this duty, and harass the enemy as much [as possible].

It is of great importance now to get information, and this can best be done by taking prisoners. It may be well to give out among the citizens, and even your own command, that my division from Richmond has reached here. Is General Ferguson your junior? If so, let him know that it is my order that he reports to you. All movements which affect Southwest Georgia he should telegraph to General Marshall, at Millen, as well as to me. If you can leave your command for a few days I would like to confer with you here. If not, I will try to meet you [on] an appointed day, selected by you, on Brier Creek. I have heard many and bitter complaints all over the State against Wheeler's men. I wish you would issue orders, upon my responsibility, to shoot all marauders.

With great respect, yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 31, 1865.*

General IVERSON, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: You can get 400 Enfield rifles here. I have telegraphed for carbines, but will not get them, I fear. I am gratified at the capture of the sailors. When such captures are made the names of the capturing party should be given for publication. So instruct your officers. Get men, if possible, below the transports to fire on them. The nearer to Savannah that you harass the Yankees the better. I wrote yesterday explaining my views in regard to your retirement to Brier Creek. I would be sorry to wound your feelings, but still continue to think an error was committed.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
[*January 31, 1865.*]

General IVERSON, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: I think it important that you should go to Hannon's assistance. So express my wishes to General Smith. Another brigade has gone up to Green's Cut and another (strong) goes up in the morning. I hope that Hannon will supply his men with arms from the Yankees. There are, however, 400 Enfield rifles at Green's Cut subject to his orders.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

Artillery in Department of North Carolina, January 31, 1865.

Badham's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. William Badham, jr., light artillery.

Cogdell's (North Carolina) battery,* Capt. Daniel Cogdell, Fort Branch.

* Composed at this time of detachments of Companies B, G, and H, First North Carolina Artillery.

Dickson's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Henry Dickson, Fort Branch.

Ellis' (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Andrew J. Ellis, light artillery.

Kelly's (South Carolina) battery, Sub-District of Goldsborough.

Lee's (Alabama) battery, Capt. Edgar J. Lee, Fort Branch.

Sampson (North Carolina) Artillery, Capt. Abner A. Moseley, light artillery.

Shaw's (North Carolina) battery, Lieut. John M. Bleunt, Sub-District of Weldon.

Southerland's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Thos. J. Southerland, light artillery.

Start's (Thirteenth North Carolina) battalion, Sub-District of Kinston.

Staunton Hill (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. A. B. Paris, light artillery.

Webb's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Lewis H. Webb, Sub-District of Weldon.

Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee, C. S. Army, commanding, for January 31, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
General staff.....	25	.....	.....	25	27	.....
Trapier's brigade.....	14	170	165	268	414	4
Taliaferro's division.....	294	5,324	5,202	6,742	9,223	12
Wright's division.....	203	2,783	2,754	3,395	5,832	38
McLaws' division.....	362	5,663	5,546	7,360	13,784	28
Jackson's brigade.....	38	528	522	641	822	4
Miller's brigade.....	115	1,441	1,398	1,765	3,135	10
Columbia, S. C.....	43	191	190	251	388	.....
Wheeler's cavalry corps.....	678	7,079	6,882	9,615	15,677	.....
Total.....	1,772	23,179	22,659	30,062	49,300	96

Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee, C. S. Army, commanding, January 31, 1865.

M'LAWS' DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. LAFAYETTE McLAWS.

Conner's Brigade.

Lieut. Col. ELI T. STACKHOUSE.

2d South Carolina, _____.
 3d South Carolina, _____.
 7th South Carolina, _____.
 8th South Carolina, _____.
 15th South Carolina, _____.
 20th South Carolina, _____.
 3d South Carolina Battalion, _____.

Fiser's Brigade.

Col. JOHN C. FISER.

1st Georgia Reserves, _____.
 6th Georgia Reserves, _____.
 27th Georgia Battalion, _____.

Harrison's Brigade.

Col. GEORGE P. HARRISON, Jr.

5th Georgia, Col. Charles P. Daniel.
 32d Georgia, Lieut. Col. E. H. Bacon, jr.
 47th Georgia, Capt. J. C. Thompson.
 1st South Carolina Cavalry (detachment), Capt. James D. Trezevant.

Hardy's Brigade.

Col. WASHINGTON M. HARDY.

7th North Carolina Reserves, _____.
 10th North Carolina Battalion, _____.
 50th North Carolina, _____.

Reserve Brigade.

1st Georgia Reserves, ————
 3d Georgia Reserves, ————
 5th Georgia Reserves, ————
 2d Battalion Georgia Reserves, ————
 23d Battalion Georgia Reserves, ————

*Artillery.**

Anderson's battery, † ————
 Barnwell's battery, † ————
 Furman Artillery, Capt. William E. Earle. †
 Louisiana Guard Artillery, † ————
 Milton Artillery, Company B, † ————
 Terrell Artillery, † Capt. John W. Brooks.

TALIAFERRO'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO.

Elliott's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. STEPHEN ELLIOTT, JR.

22d Georgia Artillery Battalion (three companies), § ————
 28th Georgia Artillery Battalion (three companies), || ————
 1st South Carolina Artillery (three companies), || ————
 2d South Carolina Artillery (two companies), || ————
 1st South Carolina Cavalry, § ————
 South Carolina State Cadets (Battalion), § ————
 South Carolina Siege Train, Company D, § ————
 Mercer Artillery, || ————
 Tiller's Company, § ————

Rhett's Brigade.

32d Georgia (detachment), Capt. Thos. A. Huguenin.
 1st South Carolina Artillery, Maj. Ormsby Blanding.
 3d South Carolina Artillery (1st Regulars), Col. William Butler.
 1st South Carolina Militia, Col. J. Griffin.
 19th South Carolina Cavalry (four companies), Capt. M. J. Kirk.
 19th South Carolina Militia (one company), Capt. ———— Manigault.
 Young's Cavalry (dismounted detachment).
 Orleans Guard Artillery, } Capt. Edward
 Parker's Battery, ¶ } L. Parker.

*Not Brigaded.***

22d Georgia Artillery Battalion (two companies), ————
 28th Georgia Artillery Battalion (four companies), ————
 1st South Carolina Cavalry, Company E, Lieut. L. W. Lusk.
 2d South Carolina Artillery (six companies), ————
 15th South Carolina Artillery Battalion, Maj. J. Jonathan Lucas.
 South Carolina Siege Train, Col. Edward B. White.
 18th South Carolina Militia, Col. John E. Carew.
 Cobb Guards Artillery, ————
 Gist Guard Artillery, Lieut. Theodore G. Boag.
 Palmetto Battalion, Company E, ————
 Tupper's Artillery Company (South Carolina Militia), Capt. Samuel Y. Tupper.
 Wheaton's (Georgia) Battery, ————

* As reported January 20, 1865. Not accounted for January 31.

† Fourth Light Artillery Battalion, as organized December 28, 1864, Earle commanding.

‡ Sixth Light Artillery Battalion, as organized December 28, 1864, Brooks commanding.

§ Under command of Lieut. Col. William A. Walker, 1st South Carolina Cavalry.

|| Under command of Lieut. Col. Joseph A. Yates, 1st South Carolina Artillery.

¶ Probably the Marion (South Carolina) Artillery.

** One company 22d Georgia and two companies 28th Georgia Battalions, under command of Maj. J. Jonathan Lucas, 15th South Carolina Battalion; Company A, 22d Georgia, and Companies A and E, 28th Georgia Battalions, under command of Capt. Cornelius R. Hanleiter; Companies B and K, 2d South Carolina Artillery, and Company E, Palmetto Battalion, under command of Lieut. Col. J. Welsman Brown; and a detachment of South Carolina Siege Train and the Cobb Guards Artillery, under Maj. Edward Manigault.

WRIGHT'S DIVISION.*

Maj. Gen. AMBROSE R. WRIGHT.

Mercer's Brigade.

1st South Carolina Cavalry, Company K,
Capt. Angus P. Brown.
1st, 2d, 6th, and 7th South Carolina Re-
serves, Brig. Gen. Albert G. Blan-
chard.
2d South Carolina Artillery, Company
C, Capt. Medicus Rickenbaker.
Adams' (Georgia) Battalion, Maj. —
Adams.
Daniell's Battery, Capt. Charles Daniell.
De Pass' Battery, Capt. W. L. De Pass.
German Artillery, Capt. William K.
Bachman.
Guerard's (Georgia) Battery, Capt. John
M. Guerard.
Jaques' (Georgia) Battalion, Maj. Samuel
R. Jaques.
Kay's (South Carolina) reserve cavalry
company, Capt. James D. Kay.
Regular (Georgia) Battery, Lieut. C. B.
Richardson.

Robertson's Brigade.

2d, 3d, and 4th South Carolina Militia,
Col. A. D. Goodwyn.
Beaufort Artillery, Capt. H. M. Stuart.
Chesnut Light Artillery, Capt. Frederick
C. Schulz.
German Artillery, Company A, Capt. F.
W. Wagener.
Mathewes' Battery, Capt. J. Raven Math-
ewes.
Stono (South Carolina) Scouts, Capt.
John B. L. Walpole.
Wagner Artillery, Capt. Charles E. Kana-
pau.
Washington Artillery, Capt. George H.
Walter.
Wilkins' cavalry company (South Caro-
lina Reserves), Capt. — Wil-
kins.

SMITH'S DIVISION.†

Maj. Gen. GUSTAVUS W. SMITH.

First Brigade Georgia Reserves, Brig. Gen. Reuben W. Carswell.
Second Brigade Georgia Reserves, Brig. Gen. Pleasant J. Phillips.
Third Brigade Georgia Reserves, Brig. Gen. Charles D. Anderson.
Fourth Brigade (12th Regiment), Col. Richard Sims.
1st Georgia State Line, { Col. James Wilson.
2d Georgia State Line, {
Georgia Cadets, Maj. F. W. Capers.
Pioneer (Georgia) corps, Capt. B. M. Polhill.
Pruden's (Georgia) Battery, Capt. W. H. Pruden.

CAVALRY CORPS.‡

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER.

ALLEN'S DIVISION.

Anderson's Brigade.

3d Confederate, Col. P. H. Rice.
8th Confederate, Lieut. Col. John S.
Prather.
10th Confederate, Capt. W. Q. Vason.
5th Georgia, Col. Edward Bird.

Hagan's Brigade.

1st Alabama, Col. David T. Blakey.
3d Alabama, Lieut. Col. Josiah Robins.
9th Alabama, Capt. S. P. Dobbs.
12th Alabama, Lieut. Col. Marcellus Poin-
ter.
51st Alabama, Col. M. L. Kirkpatrick.

* As reported January 20, 1865; composition not indicated on return for January 31, 1865.

† As reported January 20, 1865. It is not accounted for in return for January 31. The command was serving under Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, commanding District of Georgia, who also is not accounted for on original return.

‡ Actual commanders of Allen's division and the several brigades not indicated on original return. Six brigadier-generals, names not given, reported present for duty. On January 19, 1865, Butler's division was ordered to South Carolina, and on the 28th of January, Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton was reported for duty in this department. These officers are not accounted for on original return.

Crews' Brigade.

1st Georgia, Lieut. Col. George T. Watts:
 2d Georgia, Capt. George C. Looney.
 3d Georgia, Lieut. Col. Robert Thompson.
 6th Georgia, Col. John R. Hart.

HUMES' DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM Y. C. HUMES.

Dibrell's Brigade

4th Tennessee, Col. William S. McLe-
 more.
 13th Tennessee, ————
 Shaw's (Tennessee) Battalion, Capt. R. V.
 Wright.

Ashby's Brigade.

1st Tennessee, Lieut. Col. James H.
 Lewis.
 2d Tennessee, Lieut. Col. John H. Kuhn.
 5th Tennessee, Col. George W. McKenzie.
 9th Tennessee Battalion, Capt. W. L.
 Bromley.

Harrison's Brigade.

3d Arkansas, Maj. William H. Blackwell.
 8th Tennessee, Lieut. Col. Paul F. Anderson.
 8th Texas, Lieut. Col. Gustave Cook.
 11th Texas, Lieut. Col. Robert W. Hooks.

IVERSON'S DIVISION.

Ferguson's Brigade.

2d Alabama, Col. John N. Carpenter.
 56th Alabama, Col. William Boyles.
 9th Mississippi, Capt. Benjamin Ste-
 vens.
 10th Mississippi,* Col. Wm. M. Inge.
 11th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Henry L.
 Muldrow.

Lewis' Brigade.†

1st [3d] Kentucky, Lieut. Col. Jacob W.
 Griffith.
 2d Kentucky, Maj. Thomas W. Lewis.
 2d Kentucky Infantry (mounted), Lieut.
 Col. Philip Lee.
 4th Kentucky Infantry (mounted), Capt.
 Thomas Steele, jr.
 5th Kentucky Infantry (mounted), ———
 ———.
 6th Kentucky Infantry (mounted), ———
 ———.
 9th Kentucky, Col. William C. P.
 Breckinridge.
 9th Kentucky Infantry (mounted), Col.
 John W. Caldwell.

Hannon's Brigade.‡

24th Alabama Battalion, Capt. R. F. Davis.
 53d Alabama, Capt. John H. Hannon.
 11th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Hugh W. Barclay.

ARTILLERY.

Maj. JAMES HAMILTON.

Huggins' battery, Capt. Almaria L. Huggins.
 Ramsey's battery, Capt. D. Breck Ramsey.
 White's battery, Lieut. J. L. Whittington.
 Wiggins' battery, Lieut. Thomas M. Ellis.

* Formerly the 12th Mississippi Battalion.

† A consolidation of Breckinridges and Lewis' brigades directed by Special Orders, No. 1, headquarters Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, of January 2, 1865.

‡ But Special Orders, No. 1, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, January 2, 1865, directed that this brigade be broken up; that the 24th Alabama Battalion and 53d Alabama Regiment be transferred to Hagan's brigade, and the 30th Battalion [11th Regiment] Georgia to Anderson's brigade.

DETACHED COMMANDS.

*Miller's Brigade.**

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM MILLER.

2d Florida Cavalry (nine companies),
Maj. Robert Harrison.
5th Florida Battalion (eight compa-
nies), Col. George W. Scott.
29th Georgia Battalion (detachment),

Georgia Reserves (battalion), _____
Georgia Reserves (seven companies),

Special Cavalry Battalion (two compa-
nies).
Campbell's Siege Battery, Capt. Charles
G. Campbell.
Chisolm's Independent Cavalry Com-
pany, _____
Bruton's (Florida) Light Battery, _____
Kilcrease Light Artillery, Lieut. Patrick
Houstoun.
Milton Light Artillery, Company A,
Capt. Joseph L. Dunham.

Trapier's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. TRAPIER.†

Ward's battalion, South Carolina Re-
serves, Capt. Lemuel A. Grice.
19th South Carolina Cavalry, Company
E, Capt. J. J. Steele.
German Artillery, Company B, Capt. F.
Melchers.
Waccamaw Artillery, Capt. Mayham
Ward.

Jackson's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN K. JACKSON.

1st Foreign Battalion, Lieut. Col. Julius
G. Tucker.
14th South Carolina Militia, Col. D. R.
Barton.
South Carolina Militia (one company),
Capt. A. J. Frederick.
Inglis Artillery, Capt. William E.
Charles.

Post of Columbia, S. C.

Lieut. Col. ROBERT S. MEANS.

Post Guard, Capt. Rufus D. Senn.
Provost Guard, Capt. D. H. Hamilton, jr.

SPECIAL ORDERS, {
No. 26. }

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, February 1, 1865.

XIII. Maj. Charles S. Stringfellow, assistant adjutant-general, is
assigned to duty with the command of Reserves State of North
Carolina, and will at once report to Lieutenant-General Holmes, com-
manding, at Raleigh, N. C.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SALKEHATCHIE,
February 1, 1865.

[Maj. Gen. L. MCLAWS:]

GENERAL: I have just returned from an examination of the swamp
between Black Creek and the mouth of the Little Salkehatchie. I am
satisfied that to cross any considerable force between the mouths of
Black Creek and the Little Salkehatchie would be a work of time and
labor to the enemy that would give us ample time to mass forces
from the Porter house (Fiser's old camp). I believe if the enemy

* Subordinate commanders as reported January 20; not indicated on return for
January 31, 1865. Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones assigned January 11, 1865, to command of
the District of Florida, but Brigadier-General Miller was exercising that command
as late as January 26, 1865.

† Commanding January 20; actual commander not reported January 31.

attempt a crossing below the Little Salkehatchie it will be below the pontoon bridge, pretty certainly south of the mouth of Black Creek. We now have an infantry picket near Root's house. About fifty additional men are now on duty north of the pontoon bridge. This morning I moved a battalion of infantry and two pieces of artillery, Brooks' battery, to Doctor Kean's house, but after examining the swamp I ordered them back to their old camps. Captain Brooks was with me in making the examination. Captain Brooks has not yet crossed the Little Salkehatchie to look for positions for artillery at Dubois' Landing. Colonel Kennedy has returned. I refer the matters to him. The enemy made a show of crossing yesterday, just below pontoon bridge. They only developed a battalion or regiment of sharpshooters with a heavy working party. We drove them away with artillery and small-arms. I lost one man killed. Cannot estimate the damage to the enemy. Our scouts report McTier's Creek above the Salkehatchie.

I am, general, with the highest respect, your obedient servant,
 E. T. STACKHOUSE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SALKEHATCHIE BRIDGE,
February 1, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch of 1.15 a. m. just received. All quiet here this morning. Yesterday afternoon the enemy moved a battalion down to the landing just below pontoon bridge, about 600 yards; deployed and moved down to edge of the river. They had a large working party with axes in the rear. We opened on them with artillery and infantry and drove them off. Our loss was one killed. Lieutenant-Colonel Stackhouse is still in command. He has gone to the right to examine the points indicated in General McLaws' note. Will keep you advised of any movement.

Very respectfully, yours,

C. R. HOLMES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The enemy are picketing in front of the Second Regiment, between the country and railroads.

HEADQUARTERS BROXTON'S BRIDGE,
February 1, 1865.

General HUMES,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I wish you to cross Whippy Swamp as soon as possible and put yourself in front of the enemy, opposing his advance whenever practicable, reporting constantly the position of the enemy, and your own. Colonel Colecock's cavalry will be under your orders until the special instructions which accompany this are carried out.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Should you hear of the enemy crossing the Salkehatchie you will cross also and retard his advance.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,

February 1, 1865.

Major-General MCLAWS,

Commanding Broxton's Bridge :

GENERAL: The enemy are pushing a column of cavalry rapidly up the Augusta road, running up the east bank of the Coosawhatchie. They are now three miles above McBride's Bridge. This is the reason why I did not retire toward Broxton's Bridge.

Very respectfully, &c.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,

Lawtonville, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Captain POWELL,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps :

We have not a word from the enemy. Our pickets were ordered to scout well out at daylight. Captain Hubbard is down in vicinity of Gillisonville, and should have reported before this, but has not. Colonel McLemore informs me he neglected to instruct the pickets to send couriers back often. I am just starting out to where we are blockading the roads. Should I learn anything, will report it.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

GENERAL: In examining the country between Charleston and Savannah, and the South Carolina Railroad from Jacksonborough to Pocolaligo, on the former, and from Ridgeville to Branchville and Midway on the latter, one cannot but be struck with the facilities offered to an enemy threatening the South Carolina Railroad by the directness with which the southern part of the Edisto, the Salkehatchie, or Combahee, and the Ashepoo Rivers run from one to the other of these railroads.

An enemy marching on this section from the sea toward the South Carolina Railroad would have fine direct roads, and his progress would not be delayed by any of the swamps with which the country seems to be filled were it not that the upper portion of the Edisto runs in an almost easterly direction until turned sharply toward the south by a marl bluff at Gioham's Ferry, thus affording a fine line for defense, some six or eight miles from the railroad and parallel to it. It would be of the highest importance for an officer operating in this country to note well the difference of effort required in moving to or from an enemy directly up or down the country, or across it from east to west or from west to east. In the latter case swamps and causeways would be of constant occurrence; in the former case he would meet none. An enemy, for instance, who should march up the right bank of the Combahee, and then try to cross the headwaters of the Salkehatchie going east, would find the first part of the road perfectly free from natural difficulties and the last part of it so full of them as to be impracticable, if any opposition was offered to his march. The same is true of all of this country, excepting the pine barren portion of it north of Walterborough, which is perfectly open, except here and there a gall

or bay, and the small streams with sandy bottoms flowing from them, all of which are easily crossed or turned. These facts render the defense of the Edisto or Pon Pon, Ashepoo, and Combahee, at points as near their mouths as possible, of great interest, not merely in view of the Savannah railroad and our communications with that city, but in view of the South Carolina Railroad, and the entire railroad communication between the east and west of the sea-board of the Confederacy.

An enterprising enemy, well led, entering the country between the Edisto and Combahee, could easily protect his flanks by guarding the few crossings through their swamps. He would occupy a central position as against the troops now guarding the Savannah railroad, who would find it difficult to unite. He would directly threaten to South Carolina Railroad, and indirectly Charleston.

Against an enemy passing up the road from Willstown to Ridgeville determined resistance should be offered at Ball's Swamp on a line with Caw Caw. This position is not particularly strong, and there is, therefore, the more need of work to make it so, but the country in the rear of it and Caw Caw is exactly adapted for troops resolute to remain and operate on the flanks of an army which having forced Ball's Swamp should still press on to Ridgeville. I do not know of any better field for the display of talents for this kind of warfare here required than this portion of Saint Paul's offers. Officers and men must, however, previously study the ground, or it would be no better for them than for their enemies.

If I might make a suggestion, it would be that the troops in Saint Paul's should not retire directly before an enemy, but, remaining to attack his flank and break up his line of communication, should leave the foe to be met in front coming from the line of the South Carolina Railroad. At Doctor Harlee's, just above Gioham's Ferry, a good position offers. The river road here forks, one branch for Ridgeville and one crossing the bridge over Four-Hole Swamp for Orangeburg. The bridge should be strengthened, and the lumber necessary is just at hand. Work should be done here, as the enemy are met in front so far as the road is concerned, and the troops here would be on their flanks should they venture to pass before them, moving to their right toward the South Carolina Railroad, which they might attempt if the country is as open as I fear it is. If overwhelmed they could quickly put themselves behind Four-Hole Swamp and hold it—few against great odds. The river road along the left bank from Gioham's to Tucker's Bridge is good, and there are seven crossings through the swamp (Edisto) from the bend to Branchville. At Gioham's the bluff is on the left bank, and so continues for some distance. There is a crossing just above Four-Hole Branch (on the Edisto), one at Raysor's Bridge on the road from George's Station to Walterborough, very important. The bluff is on the right bank, but the ground there is so favorable for, and the defense so necessary, that I would advise the occupation of the wrong side of the river, and that the work needful to hold it should be done there.

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hickory Hill, S. C., February 1, 1865.

The within unfinished report was found in a vacant building at McPhersonville. Thinking it might be of some interest to the general commanding, I respectfully forward it.

GEO. A. STONE,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Hickory Hill Post-Office, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Respectfully referred to commanding general of the army corps.

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
In the Field, February 1, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General :

LIEUTENANT: Prisoners say that the Nineteenth Corps, commanded by Sheridan, is now in Savannah, and they say that Kilpatrick is on this side of the Savannah River. Scouts saying that they belong to his command have been to Springfield. The enemy are still crossing the river, and not advancing on this side of the river. They charged and scattered my pickets day before yesterday.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

Several torpedoes have exploded at Sister's Ferry, doing some damage among the enemy. A portion of the Twentieth Corps crossed below Sister's Ferry, and it is this part of the army which has probably reached Robertsville.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 1, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Commanding, &c., Macon, Ga. :

GENERAL: General Beauregard desires that you will send an efficient commandant of the post to Mayfield, to see that no confusion and delay takes place in the prompt transmission of troops. Let him be instructed that if cars are not in readiness at Mayfield on the arrival of the troops, they must march to Camak, where they will meet transportation.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, commanding, &c., Macon, Ga.)

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 1, 1865.*

Captain PEYTON,
Assistant Quartermaster, Columbus, Ga. :

Major Willis telegraphs that Cheatham's corps quartermaster should get clothing, shoes, and blankets from you. He cannot be communicated with. You had better issue the clothing, &c., to the different quartermasters passing through with troops, as they must be furnished and there are none at Augusta.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 2, 1865.*His Excellency President JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond, Va. :

General Taylor reports that a victory over Sherman is essential, and that he can resist a raid without Stewart's corps and cannot fight a battle with it against an army; that French's division is sufficient to fully garrison Mobile and Choctaw Bluff, and proposes to send balance of corps here. I have accordingly ordered it here, with a battalion of artillery.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 2, 1865.*Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C. :

Brig. Gen. William M. Browne, of my staff, an officer of the Provisional Army, should not be assigned to duty under militia officers unless under imperative necessity.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

AUGUSTA, *February 2, 1865.*
(Received 12.30 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER:

Nothing new to report respecting movements of the enemy, except that he may attempt to cross the Salkehatchie, seven miles above N [*sic.*] road bridge. The Twentieth Corps at Robertsville; the Fourteenth Corps still crossing at Sister's Ferry.

W. J. HARDEE,
*Lieutenant-General.*AUGUSTA, *February 2, 1865.*Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C. :

I have concluded to send Stevenson's forces to Branchville to-morrow. Can you furnish him with artillery?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
*February 2, 1865.*General R. E. LEE,
Commanding :

GENERAL: I learn from friends at the South that nothing but the restoration of General Johnston to the command of the Army of Tennessee will restore that army to organization, morale, and efficiency. This is my own opinion also. I hope, therefore, that you will not think it improper in me to beg that this may be one of your first acts as commander-in-chief. If I were not satisfied in my own mind that this was essential to the preservation of that army, I should not volunteer an opinion upon a matter beyond my proper sphere. I have served under General Johnston, and, so far as I am capable of judging, I am

satisfied that he is one of our ablest and best generals. He has not been successful, but you can readily see that no general can be successful if he does not receive the support of the authorities above him.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, February 2, 1865—12.30 a. m.

General D. H. HILL,
Commanding District of Georgia:

GENERAL: The enemy moved up in very large force on both roads between the Coosawhatchie and Combahee Rivers. I have no doubt both Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps are there; Kilpatrick is reported there also. There is certainly one large brigade of cavalry with this column. Scouts from rear report that nearly all the enemy have left Pocotaligo, moving north. I will go in person to the front of Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps this morning. Enemy's movements now look as though Branchville, rather than Augusta, is their destination, though it is impossible yet to determine. General McLaws is at Broxton's Bridge. I fear the enemy may move up and attempt to cross at Buford's or Rivers' Bridges.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—The Twentieth Corps will be delayed by the roads being thoroughly blockaded; sufficient force will be left to retard it also.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Fourteen Miles Northwest Hickory Hill, February 2, 1865.

General D. H. HILL, *Augusta, Ga.:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 4.15 p. m. 31st of January received. I think one corps is too much to send down to line of Brier Creek. The division you have sent there with Iverson's cavalry ought to be sufficient. If the rest of the troops you have were sent to the fortifications I have had built at Three Runs they would be in position to oppose an advance upon Augusta, or move around and oppose an advance upon the railroad at Blackville, Graham's, Midway, or Branchville. These troops would also then be in position to oppose an advance upon Columbia should it be made. If the enemy should advance upon Augusta on the Georgia side, these troops could be sent rapidly by railroad to Augusta, and then sent down to oppose him. If, after placing troops in position to hold the Three Runs, we should have any surplus troops, I think they should be sent to re-enforce our troops to prevent the enemy crossing at Broxton's, Rivers', and Buford's Bridges. The enemy drove us within seven miles of Allendale to-day, but they are now checked, and are skirmishing. They consist of both infantry and cavalry.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Maner's House, February 2, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I have established my headquarters at this point (Maner's house), near the intersection of the road we traveled this evening with the road crossing the Orangeburg road at Owen's Cross-Roads. I left a picket at the crossing west of Loper's Cross-Roads, and have a regiment on the road leading near my headquarters to Owen's Cross-Roads, which pickets also a road crossing the Orangeburg road at a point north of the latter point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
February 2, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: The enemy are now in one mile of our headquarters. General Humes moved early this morning to the Salkehatchie road to meet the enemy. He left only one regiment (Fifth Tennessee) here. We cannot stop the enemy long. General Humes ordered the bridges destroyed across Salkehatchie Swamp. This will be done, if possible. The enemy are pressing very hard. I sent General Humes a courier informing him that he could not return by way of his old headquarters. His wagon trains are moving toward Duck Branch Post-Office. I thought proper to inform you of this.

Very respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,
 CHAS. A. ELDER,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S BRIGADE,
Smart's House, February 2, 1865—3.20 p. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: The order from the major-general for me to proceed to near Allendale is received. Am I to leave at once or still await the arrival of Colonel Dibrell, as before ordered?

R. H. ANDERSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Broxton's Bridge, February 2, 1865.

General HUMES,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: Major-General McLaws directs that you dismount about 300 of your men when you reach Morris' Ford, and place them in the intrenchments to support a battery of artillery, which is now there unsupported, and to hold the position.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 R. W. B. ELLIOTT.

HEADQUARTERS,
Broxton's Bridge, February 2, 1865.

General HUMES:

I wish you would cross the Salkehatchie with the greater portion of your command and assist in guarding the crossings of that stream from Rivers' Bridge to Buford's and above as far as possible. Leave 300 or 400 men on the other side, with orders to check the enemy as much as possible and watch his movements. Our men will cross at Morris' Ford and assist in the defense of that place. I hope you can cross at Buford's Bridge and dispose your men for its defense. Colonel Colcock is picketing, or has been directed to picket, from Rivers' Bridge as high up toward Buford's as his force will permit. I wish you to relieve him of that duty, as his force is required below Rivers' Bridge. I expect more cavalry here early to-morrow, which will report to you.

Respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
In the Field, February 2, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I have just been ordered by General McLaws to cross my main force over the Salkehatchie to aid him in resisting the enemy; and deeming it of the first importance that the enemy be opposed, in obedience to his order, I therefore will cross my division over the Salkehatchie, leaving only a small force to observe the enemy on the roads from Buford's and Barker's Bridges to Barnwell Court-House.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
In the Field, February 2, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The enemy are now at Rivers' Bridge. I have fallen back, and will picket so as to cover Barker's and Buford's Bridges. My headquarters to-night will be at Angley's Post-Office.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I have had ten or twelve men badly wounded.
Respectfully,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

FEBRUARY 2, 1865—9 p. m.

Major-General HUMES,
Commanding Division Cavalry:

GENERAL: I send by courier orders from Major-General McLaws. To cross successfully at Buford's Bridge it will be necessary for you to

move at once, as the enemy is but a short distance below; will probably drive you in by daylight. It is of the utmost importance that the river should be picketed below Buford's. There are no pickets for four miles below that point. You will oblige by sending me a reply to Colonel Hardy's headquarters at Buford's Bridge, letting me know when you will be up, as I wish to communicate with the major-general commanding.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
MALLORY P. KING,
Adjutant and Inspector General, McLaws' Division.

HEADQUARTERS HANNON'S BRIGADE,
February 2, 1865—7 p. m.

Captain LAWTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I returned from the front after attacking the enemy's scouts at three points. I killed 1, captured 11, and wounded several. Killed 2 horses and captured 10 mules, with arms and equipments. Prisoners say they belong to Kilpatrick's cavalry, and that the Nineteenth Corps, commanded by Sheridan, is in Savannah. They also state that they are only crossing their pioneer corps for the purpose of causewaying the road to the highland.

Respectfully,

M. W. HANNON,
Colonel, &c.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 2, 1865.*

Maj. EDWARD WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard desires that, as soon as the troops of the Army of Tennessee shall have passed, its transportation now en route to this point shall be placed on the cars and hurried forward. Major Molloy, commissary of subsistence, has been directed to collect at Abbeville, S. C., ten days' rations for 15,000 men; at Washington, Ga., five days' rations for 10,000 men; at Columbia, S. C., thirty days' rations for 20,000 men, and at Augusta, Ga., ten days' rations for 15,000 men. You will supply the necessary transportation for the supplies before mentioned to the points indicated.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 2, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. C. L. STEVENSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: It is the desire of General Beauregard that you render to these headquarters, with as little delay as practicable, a statement exhibiting the number of troops of Lee's corps that have arrived here and the number that are yet to come. An approximation will answer in the absence of correct returns.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *February 2, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

President is fully disposed to do all you wish, but says you must name your two aides. Has difficulty about rank of aides and any adjutant-general's commission to Strange and Cuthbert, who parted with no position [*sic*]. Your presence would save all and do other good. President thinks you should come. I propose to leave your office books and papers with him. He concurs. If fleet has left, do ask orders to come. I know the necessity, or would not be importunate.

JNO. B. SALE,
*Military Secretary.*RICHMOND, *February 2, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Your presence said to be necessary here. Telegraph me at Petersburg.

JAMES E. CUTHBERT,
*Major and Aide-de-Camp.*GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 10. }HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 2, 1865.

Lieut. Col. G. T. Gordon, Invalid Corps, is assigned to temporary duty as inspector-general of this department.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*AUGUSTA, *February 3, 1865.*His Excellency President DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

Three points threatened by enemy are of greatest importance to hold at present: Charleston, Branchville, and Augusta. Sherman is now apparently moving on Branchville. If we had sufficient force to give him battle, a concentration of forces should immediately take place there; but General Hardee reports only 13,700 effectives, infantry and artillery, of whom about 3,000 are State reserves and militia. Lee's corps just arrived here, and now on its way to Branchville, numbers only about 4,000 effectives. Cheatham's and Stewart's corps, averaging about 3,000 each, will not all arrive here before 10th instant, by which time enemy will probably have possession of Branchville. Concentration of Hardee's forces and mine cannot, therefore, take place south of Columbia. I respectfully urge the vital importance of concentrating at Columbia such forces as can be sent from North Carolina and Virginia. Ten thousand or 12,000 additional men would insure the defeat of Sherman and the reopening of General Lee's communications with his base of supplies. I will repair to Columbia as soon as practicable, and, with your approval, will assume command of all forces which may be assembled there. When railroad to Branchville shall have been tapped by enemy, General Lee's supplies will have to be sent via Washington, Ga., and Abbeville, S. C.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 3, 1865.*His Excellency President DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

The fall of Charleston and Columbia would necessitate soon abandonment of Wilmington and East North Carolina. If troops from there and from Virginia could be sent me at Columbia, with their transportation, I would defeat, and might destroy, Sherman's army. No time, however, should be lost.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CONFEDERATE STATES,
HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 3, 1865.

Notes of conference had on the 2d day of February, A. D. 1865, at Green's Cut Station, Ga., at which General Beauregard, Lieutenant-General Hardee, Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, and Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith were present. The following was the estimated strength of the forces in and about Augusta and the State of South Carolina which could be relied on as effectives to resist the advance of Sherman:

General Hardee: Regular infantry, Provisional Armies Confederate States	8,000	
Militia and reserves	3,000	
		11,000
Light artillery	2,000	
Butler's division, mounted and dismounted (one-half only available at this date)	1,500	
		3,500
Total under command of General Hardee		14,500
Major-General Smith: Georgia militia	1,200	
General Browne: Reserves	250	
		1,450
Total		15,950
Total infantry		12,450
Lee's corps: Infantry	4,000	
Cheatham's corps: Infantry	3,000	
Stewart's corps: Infantry	3,000	
		10,000
Total infantry		22,450
Artillery	800	
Army of Tennessee	10,800	
Wheeler's cavalry	6,700	

Recapitulation.

Total infantry	22,450
Total light artillery	2,800
Total cavalry, mounted and dismounted	8,200
Grand total	33,450

Cheatham's and Stewart's corps had not arrived. The head of Cheatham's corps was expected to arrive on the 4th or 5th, and the head of Stewart's on the 10th or 11th instant. In view of Sherman's present position, his manifest advance toward Branchville from Pocatigo and Coosawhatchie, the weakness of our forces, and the expected arrival of the re-enforcements above referred to, it was deemed inadvisable to concentrate our forces at Branchville, and there offer battle

to Sherman. During the pending negotiations for peace, it was thought of the highest importance to hold Charleston and Augusta, as long as it was humanly possible. Moreover, it being in violation of all maxims of the military art to adopt a place as a point of concentration which it was possible that the enemy, with a largely superior force, could reach before our columns could arrive, it was, therefore, concluded—

First. That the line of the Combahee should be held as long as practicable, resisting the enemy strongly at all points.

Second. Should the enemy penetrate this line, or turn it in force, General Hardee should retire with his forces, covering his rear with about 500 cavalry, toward Charleston, resisting the advance of the enemy in that direction vigorously behind every available creek, river, or swamp; whilst Wheeler, dividing his forces temporarily, should fall back with the main portion in the direction of Columbia, checking the enemy's advance, should he follow, and hold the line of the Congaree until re-enforcements could arrive. The other portion of his cavalry was to fall back toward Augusta, covering that place.

Third. Should the enemy follow Hardee and indicate an attack on Charleston, whenever it should become evident that a longer defense was impracticable, General Hardee should abandon the place, removing all valuable stores, and hasten to form a junction in front of Columbia with the forces of General Beauregard, who would have to cover Columbia and take up the Congaree as a line of defense.

Fourth. That the infantry now on the line of Brier Creek, about twenty-five miles south of Augusta at nearest point, should be removed as soon as the stores were brought back and take up a new position along Spirit Creek, about fifteen miles nearer, and which should be fortified. A four-gun battery, with embrasures and heavy traverses, was to be placed on the Savannah River, near the mouth of Spirit Creek, and a similar one at Sandbar Ferry, both batteries aided by torpedoes in the river.

Fifth. It was held in contemplation to send Lee's corps to Branchville, and in the event of the happening of the contingency alluded to in the second and third resolutions, Major-General Stevenson, commanding that corps, should retire toward the Congaree, protected by the cavalry, where he would watch and guard its crossings until the arrival of Generals Beauregard and Hardee. In the course of the conference General Hardee expressed the opinion that it would require at least 20,000 men to defend Charleston successfully, during about twenty days, being the extent of provisions there accumulated. He said, however, that his subordinate commanders in that district, Brigadier-Generals Taliaferro and Elliott and Colonel Rhett, estimated the force required at from that number to about 25,000 men. The troops arriving from the Army of Tennessee were still without artillery and wagons. Three batteries were expected to arrive at Augusta in two or three days, but the other six, and the wagon trains, could not be expected to commence arriving before eight or ten days. The enemy moving with a certain number of days' rations for all his troops, with the hope of establishing a new base at Charleston after its fall, has in reality no lines of communication which can be threatened or cut. His overpowering force enables him to move into the interior of the country like an ordinary movable column.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 5, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to the War Department for the information of the President.

If it be true, as reported by prisoners and deserters, that Schofield's corps (Twenty-third), from Middle Tennessee, and Sheridan's (Nineteenth), from the Valley of Virginia, have joined Sherman's army, it cannot be estimated at less than 54,000 infantry and artillery—*i. e.*, six corps at 9,000 men each, to whom must be added about 4,000 cavalry, forming a total of not less than 58,000 disciplined and well organized men.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 16, 1865.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Third indorsement.]

Read and returned. The previous reports justified the supposition that a larger force than that stated within was present for duty. The distinction made by the term "relied on as effectives" may account for the difference.

J. D.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 3, 1865.*

Brigadier-General TYLER,
West Point:

The advance of Bate's division will probably arrive here to-day.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BLACKVILLE, [*February*] 3, 1865.

Major-General McLAWS:

I have ordered McGregor's reserves to Rivers' Bridge to report to you and will telegraph at once to Branchville to send Taliaferro's brigade. Have you any one at Morris' Ford? I will leave here in an hour for Barnwell Court-House.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

BUFORD'S BRIDGE, *February 3, 1865—10 a. m.*

Major-General McLAWS:

GENERAL: The Fourth Tennessee and Eighth Texas, under Colonel Anderson, have just crossed at the bridge. The rest of General Humes' division was within six miles of Barnwell last night, and, I understand, is to cross above at Harrison's Ford. Until General Humes comes up Colonel Anderson, with his command, 250 strong, will take up the line

from Colonel Hardy's left, one mile and a half below here, and extend until he strikes Colonel Colcock or Lieutenant Colonel Baker's right, as the case may be. If Colonel Colcock is to be relieved before the rest of General Humes' command comes up please let me know. Colonel Anderson reports the enemy firing at his vedettes one mile and a half below here at daylight. The vedettes were withdrawn. Colonel Anderson will send over a scout; will report as soon as it returns. Our pickets are still on the other side of the causeway. The swamp here is about three-quarters of a mile wide, very thick, but hard bottom, and water not deep. As soon as I can hear of General Humes will inform you.

Very respectfully,

MALLORY P. KING,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS SALKEHATCHIE BRIDGE,
February 3, 1865.

Captain ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: A Mrs. Mew came over the river late yesterday evening and reports that all of the enemy opposite my right moved off yesterday morning, the larger body on the road to Broxton's Bridge, the other on the Augusta road. She reports no enemy in my front on the McPhersonville side of the railroad. Dickert and Paysinger will report fully this evening. I expected to hear something from you yesterday relative to movements in General McLaws' front. Don't fail to keep me fully advised of your every movement, so that I can know what to do. My position is perfectly untenable, if you have to leave yours, and useless. I have written fully to General Hardee for general instructions as to my line of policy in case of any change of your position, as to my co-operation with other troops, line of retreat, should it become necessary, and other matters pertinent to the exigencies of the situation. As to my line, I can hold it. I would be pleased to have an expression of opinion from General McLaws, which would be of service in the absence of a reply to my communication to General Hardee. Relative to publishing the names of Dickert and Paysinger, as suggested by the general, would it not be imprudent? I send their names.

I am, captain, very respectfully,

J. D. KENNEDY,
Colonel, Commanding.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 3, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Green's Cut, Ga.:

General Beauregard desires that you will send at once the brigade of Lee's corps now with you to this place by rail, to report to General Stevenson.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. C. L. STEVENSON,
Commanding Lee's Corps :

GENERAL: General Beauregard desires that you will forthwith move with your corps, by rail, to Branchville and assume command at that place of all troops which may be there. You will carry with you four days' cooked rations. On reaching Branchville you will open communication with Lieutenant-General Hardee, at Charleston, and inform him of your arrival. You will report in person to General Beauregard and receive instructions from him.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 3, 1865.*

Major MOSES,
Commissary of Subsistence, Planters' Hotel :

MAJOR: I am instructed to advise you that Maj. F. Molloy, commissary of subsistence, has been directed to collect without delay at Abbeville, S. C., ten days' rations for 15,000 men; at Washington, Ga., five days' rations for 10,000 men; at Columbia, S. C., thirty days' rations for 20,000 men, and at Augusta, Ga., ten days' rations for 15,000 men, and to ask that you afford him every facility within your power to accomplish this result.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 3, 1865.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond :

The newspapers report an act passed and approved repealing the law under which my personal staff was appointed. I beg that they be commissioned in the Adjutant-General's Department and ordered to me. I would prefer seeing you in person on this and other matters, but do not feel authorized to leave here in the present condition of affairs. The enemy has one iron-clad monitor and some fifteen other armed vessels in the river, and is reconnoitering and buoying out the channel up to Fort Anderson. Our defenses are improving, but we are greatly in need of heavy guns.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 3, 1865.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Richmond :

Have telegraphed the President, which I hope will arrange matters. My absence from here now could only be justified by orders.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 3, 1865.*

Maj. J. E. CUTHBERT, *Petersburg:*

My presence here is indispensable.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 3, 1865.

Maj. J. W. CAMERON,

Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: In making shipments of cotton it is the desire of the commanding general that you shall, as far as practicable, first send off that which is stored in town, where it could not safely be burned. Colonel Jackson and Mr. Seixas will give you information where to find it.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 3, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE, *Sugar Loaf:*

General Bragg desires you to send two companies of cavalry to General Hagood without delay.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *February 3, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

The cavalry is ordered.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS HOKE'S DIVISION,
February 3, 1865.

Colonel ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have been disapproving applications made by officers for furloughs because the number absent now is far greater in proportion to that of the men. The state of feeling of our troops is such that we should guard against all reasons for complaint. The effect is bad when men see that officers are allowed to go home indiscriminately. I am induced to change my opinion about the division infirmary, and will give the matter a personal inspection if you can postpone action for a day or so, but if it is broken up the most stringent orders will have to be given relative to transfers. Will the hospitals of the city afford accommodations for the sick and convalescents? If an action should take place hospital room would be wanted, and all occupants would at once be transferred, but this we can discuss unless you desire immediate action.

Very respectfully, yours,

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 4, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Augusta, Ga.:

Your three dispatches of yesterday received. The view presented is more discouraging than I had anticipated. The last report I received from General Hardee was of the 8th ultimo. His force seems, from your statement, to have materially diminished, notwithstanding he at the time expected re-enforcements from South Carolina, and has received a considerable force from the Army of Virginia. The numbers given for the corps from the Army of Tennessee are also much smaller than I had been led to expect. You know what was the condition of affairs here when you left Virginia. Since then the enemy has received re-enforcements, and General Lee has sent detachments to Georgia and South Carolina. You can, therefore, judge of his power to aid you to the extent you propose without abandoning his present field of operations. I will, however, communicate your dispatches to him, and need not assure you of his readiness to do whatever circumstances will permit to attain your object—the defeat of Sherman. You will assume command of all the forces in the district as defined before your departure to the West; and, should you deem it advisable, will direct General Hardee to resume command of his old corps when it arrives, and add to it any other forces which may be advantageously associated with it. You will endeavor to obtain from Governor Magrath, of South Carolina, and Governor Brown, of Georgia, whatever auxiliary force they can add, and use all available means to restore absentees to the service. From these sources you should be able to obtain a greater number of men than that named in your dispatch as sufficient to enable you to defeat the enemy. You will realize the necessity for the rapid concentration of your forces, and, if possible, the defeat of the enemy at some point south and east of Branchville and Augusta. To give time for such concentration and for the arrival of re-enforcements, every available means must be employed to delay the advance of the enemy, and, by operating on his lines of communication, to interfere with his supplies.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 4, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Augusta, Ga.:

The Commissary-General wishes to know if he shall continue to retain thirty days' provisions at Charleston. Your judgment is desired.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*
(Received 8.45 o'clock.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

Thirty days' provisions are no longer required in Charleston. But provisions now there will be required for troops operating in South Carolina.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

I have ordered a line of couriers from here to Columbia. A telegraph line should be established forthwith between same points, via Georgia Railroad, Washington, Abbeville, and Newberry. I am informed John Fraser & Co. have wire, &c., at Columbia. Please answer.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*
(Received 4.10 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Telegrams from Generals Hardee and McLaws report enemy crossed Broxton's and Rivers' Bridges over the Salkehatchie, forcing General McLaws back toward Branchville. He was flanked on both sides. Fighting was sharp at Rivers' Bridge. General Hardee has made dispositions to hold railroad as long as possible, but says will not be able to hold it much longer.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Reports from Generals Wheeler and Iverson of yesterday indicate that the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps have passed the Savannah River at Sister's Ferry, but that portions of them are still this side, as Iverson, in a skirmish on the 2d instant, took prisoners from the Sixth [Fourteenth ?] Corps. Prisoners were taken who claim to belong to the Twenty-third Corps (Schofield). They report one division of that corps present. Sheridan, with the Nineteenth, reported to have arrived at Savannah, and General Meagher with the stragglers of Sherman's army.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

General Taylor reports Schofield with Twenty-third Corps and remnants of Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps, that were left by Sherman with Thomas, are moving east over Baltimore and Ohio and Pennsylvania Central Railroads. Large force, supposed to be A. J. Smith's command, and other troops gathered from Western garrisons, reported going down Mississippi River. Remainder of Thomas' army, including Wood's (Fourth) corps, at Eastport in bivouac.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 4, 1865.

All officers and agents of the Confederate States will furnish forage and subsistence to Capt. W. A. Shaw, commanding courier-line between this place and Columbia, S. C. Issues will be made on the requisition of Captain Shaw. Any other assistance necessary to perfect his courier arrangement by facilitating the carrying of dispatches will be promptly given him.

By command of General Beauregard:

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 4, 1865.*

Maj. NORMAN W. SMITH,
Inspector Field Transportation:

MAJOR: A military necessity having arisen for the impressment of wagons and teams to run between Washington, Ga., and Abbeville, S. C., General Beauregard authorizes and directs you to proceed without delay to impress 120 wagons and 480 mules in the following counties in the State of Georgia: Elbert County, 20 wagons, 80 mules; Oglethorpe County, 20 wagons, 80 mules; Clarke County, 20 wagons, 80 mules; Greene County, 20 wagons, 80 mules; Wilkes County, 30 wagons, 120 mules; Taliaferro County, 10 wagons, 40 mules. As this mode of proceeding is at all times harsh and calculated to irritate and annoy, you will select for this duty your best officers and instruct them to proceed with all possible delicacy and abstain from all conduct which may needlessly vex and alienate the affection of the citizens. As soon as the exigency shall cease for the use of the wagons and teams, you will cause them to be promptly returned to their owners. As you are without funds and cannot proceed strictly according to the impressment law and the orders regulating the exercise of powers under it, you will proceed, in the mode indicated by the law, to ascertain the value of the property impressed, and will then give a certificate to the owner, setting forth the time and place, when and where taken, the character and description of the property and the amount of compensation fixed. As far as practicable in the discharge of this duty you will conform to the orders regulating impressments. A report of your action under this order you will make to these headquarters when the duty shall have been performed. Colonel Anderson, with his cavalry command, will be ordered to you to act under your instructions.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*

Maj. R. J. MOSES,
Chief Commissary, State of Georgia:

MAJOR: General Beauregard desires that you send to Washington, Ga., all the surplus subsistence stores that you have in this place instead of Columbia, S. C., as heretofore requested.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*

OFFICER COMMANDING DETACHMENT OF STOVALL'S BRIGADE:

SIR: General Beauregard directs that you will repair at once with your detachment of 160 men to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill. You will report in person to General Hill for orders.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *February 4, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE:

Explain the causes why the cotton at Savannah was not destroyed before its evacuation.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

BRANCHVILLE, *February 4, 1865.*
(Received 12 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER:

Wheeler reports enemy moving up the right bank of the Salkehatchie, northwardly toward Fiddle Pond.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 4, 1865.

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH:

GENERAL: The Yankees forced the crossing at Rivers' Bridge yesterday. McLaws has retired to Branchville. General Beauregard directs that you hurry up to Spirit Creek. A train will be sent down to-night for 500 of your men to come up to Augusta to aid in removing cotton. Captain Barnes is ordered to bring up the four Parrotts on a flat. General B. wants one of your batteries placed on a flat, the horses coming by dirt road, to guard Big Horse Creek. Browne is ordered up to Allen's Station, and the battery with him must come up too. Keep cooked rations continually on hand.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 4, 1865.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM M. BROWNE,
Commanding Local Brigade:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you leave fifty men, under a good officer, at Rae's Bridge, and bring the rest to Spirit Creek, reporting to General Smith. The battery must accompany you. Communicate your retirement to General Iverson, and that you have directed your men to burn the bridge as soon as he has crossed over. Let them have combustible material on the bridge and everything ready to burn it as soon as cavalry has retired.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, February 4, 1865.

Captain PARKER,
Provost-Marshal:

The major-general commanding directs that you see that cars necessary for the removal of Government stores be vacant in the morning, even should it be necessary to turn out private freight.

R. W. MEMMINGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CARTER'S FORD, *February 4, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

The enemy crossed the Salkehatchie between Broxton's and Rivers' Bridges; also above Rivers' Bridge, compelling me to fall back upon Branchville. It was with difficulty that my command could be withdrawn, as I was completely flanked on both sides. The fighting at Rivers' Bridge was quite sharp, and lasted several hours.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

BLACKVILLE, *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Send a brigade to guard the crossing over the Edisto, on the road leading from Walterborough to George's Station on South Carolina Railroad, with instructions to destroy the bridge on the approach of the enemy. Cover the railroad as long as possible without endangering your command. General Wheeler is ordered to assist you.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

BRANCHVILLE, S. C., *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

GENERAL: I am about starting for Charleston. I have sent you instructions respecting the dispositions to be made of your command. For fear you may not have received them, I will repeat that you must occupy all the bridges and crossings from railroad bridge to Raysor's Bridge, inclusive. If forced back you will retire behind the Four Hole Swamp, where I have ordered intrenchments to be thrown up. Stevenson, with his command, will hold Cannon's and the bridges above. Stevenson has part of his force at New Bridge, which will be relieved by your command. I expect to return here to-morrow evening. Keep me advised as usual.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Examine roads to your rear.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 4, 1865—11.45 a. m.

Maj. Gen. JOS. WHEELER,
Comdg. Cavalry at Fiddle Pond, near Barnwell Court-House:

GENERAL: General McLaws reports that the enemy late last night had forced a passage across the Salkehatchie in the vicinity of Rivers'

Bridge, forcing him back toward Branchville. Should you have received no definite orders from General Hardee for the present contingency, you will cross the Salkehatchie with the bulk of your forces as close to Rivers' Bridge as safely practicable, and re-establish your communications with General McLaws (or Stevenson) at or about Branchville, protecting at the same time the Charleston railroad from that point toward Blackville, and beyond if possible. When compelled to fall back from the railroad, you will defend the crossings of the Edisto above Branchville, operating in conjunction with General Stevenson for the protection of Columbia and the crossings of the Congaree above and below that city. The remainder of your force (say about one brigade) left south of the Salkehatchie, will retire, fighting, in the direction of Augusta, holding the enemy in check wherever practicable. It will be sent to rejoin you as soon as circumstances will permit. Continue to keep General Hill advised of your movements and of those of the enemy.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

NEAR MORRIS' FORD,
February 4, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Augusta:*

Information from scouts is that the enemy are still moving toward Buford's Bridge. I go immediately to Buford's Bridge and Midway road.

J. WHEELER.

Send above also to Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee at Branchville.

J. WHEELER.
Major-General.

MIDWAY, *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

I shall not destroy Cannon's Bridge or any of the bridges above it on the Edisto. I leave them for you to retreat upon and destroy.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

(Operator Blackville will forward this to General Wheeler.)

BRANCHVILLE, *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Binnaker's Bridge has probably been destroyed by Captain Kanapaux. I now will ascertain whether this is so. This bridge is above Cannon's. If it has not been destroyed you will of course destroy it when you retreat across it.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

BRANCHVILLE, *February 4, 1865—7 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER:

I go to Charleston to-night. Keep me fully advised of the movements of the enemy. I have said the railroad could be kept open all

to-morrow. If movements of enemy cause you to think otherwise, communicate promptly with all railroad stations. Drive all cattle before you that is possible. Establish a courier line to Blackville.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, February 4, 1865—7.30 a. m.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I have been absent three days, but your dispatches have been received by General B[eauregard]. I have urged your re-enforcement. You seem to have done all that you could to check the scoundrels. God bless you and give you great success. Oh, for one week's delay. With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 4, 1865—3.40 a. m.

Lient. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to state that one of Captain Shannon's scouts has just reported to me that he went to-night about 12 o'clock a mile beyond Bostick's house on the road by which we fell back to-day, and that he saw no signs of any enemy. As he saw no camp-fires, he is confident there are none this side of Duck Creek. The commanding officer of the Tenth Confederate Cavalry, which is on picket two miles this side of the cross-roads, near Bostick's, informed this scout as he returned that he heard drums very distinctly on his immediate left. Scouts have gone over in that direction, but have not reported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 4, 1865—8.40 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that your dispatch dated 11.30 p. m. February 3, 1865, was dropped on the road by the courier by whom it was sent, and was picked up by one of Colonel Dibrell's men, and was sent to me by Colonel Dibrell this morning. It reached me at 8.15 a. m. I have ordered General Anderson to move back and occupy the works erected by Captain Steele, and have directed Colonel Hagan to move at once to Morris' Ford. Colonel Dibrell opened the dispatch when it was found, and learning its contents, moved at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Graham's House, February 4, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: In reply to your note dated 4.50 p. m. this day I have the honor to say that I have already sent three couriers to Colonel Crews, directing him to take position as designated by the note alluded to. I will, however, send to him again at once, conveying your instructions in full. There is a courier-line established from Barnwell Court-House to Augusta, via Dunbar's Mills, also one from Morris' Ford to Blackville.

Your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

MIDWAY, *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Colonel Ashby has arrived with his brigade. I will cover the road from Cowpen Ford with Harrison's brigade and that from Odom's Ford with Ashby's brigade, blockading the swamps and destroying the bridges at both places. All information I gain regarding the strength and movements I will report to Lieutenant-Colonel Pickett.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
February 4, 1865.

Major-General MCLAWS,
Commanding, &c.:

I have burnt and completely destroyed the bridges over Little Salkehatchie at Cowpen or Carpenter's Ford.

Respectfully, &c.,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION CAVALRY,
February 4, 1865—7.15 o'clock.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: Your note of 11.30 of last night is just received instructing me to move at daylight for Morris' Ford. I will move at once.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Division Cavalry.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865—2 p. m.*

General IVERSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

The Yankees forced McLaws back toward Branchville yesterday. This will cause a move on our part. I will apprise you of it. In the meanwhile delay the Yankees as much as possible. Smith and Browne

have both been ordered back to Spirit Creek. Browne will leave fifty men at Rae's Bridge to hold it until you can cross it. Your line of retreat may be turned toward Milledgeville and not toward Augusta. If you do not intend to use Braannon's Bridge have it effectually destroyed. Avoid the pocket, or peninsula, between Brier Creek and Savannah. You may be caught in there. Wheeler, when last heard from, was at Fiddle Pond, but he will leave there to-day. I congratulate you on the gallantry of Hannon and his men.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
February 4, 1865—7 p. m.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Corps:

Copy of dispatch from Captain Mastin, commanding picket-line:

I have the honor to report that Lieutenant Ward, of the Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion, has just brought in two prisoners, whom he captured in front of Lieutenant Ingram's post. It was he who the ambuscade was fired at which I spoke of in the other dispatch. He has two men in charge of another prisoner, who have not made their appearance since he ran into the ambuscade. The result of the trip was 3 prisoners and 2 killed, arms, &c., without the loss of a man of his. Lieutenant Ward was at Springfield yesterday morning and reports no Yankees at that place. He reports the Nineteenth Corps below No. 2, on the railroad. He reports Kilpatrick's rear to have passed through Springfield night before last, he following it. Reports their main force camped between our old camp, three miles above Springfield, and the river, Sister's Ferry.

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsements.]

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
February 5, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the corps commander.
W. T. WARD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
February 5, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the commanding general.

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 4, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

General Beauregard is concentrating at Columbia all his force to oppose Sherman, whom it is necessary to defeat. Can you send to him any troops from North Carolina?

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 4, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:

GENERAL: At the request of Mrs. S. C. Lamb, wife of Colonel Lamb, who was captured at Fort Fisher, I have the honor to ask that permission be granted her to visit the North with her children and nurse. She is of Northern birth and would, no doubt, be able to mitigate the rigor of her husband's confinement, and greatly relieve his sufferings incident to the severe wound he received.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 4, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Commanding C. S. Arsenal, Fayetteville:

Have in readiness two 10-inch gun carriages, chassis, circles, platforms, with implements complete, and 200 rounds of ammunition. I shall want them in a few days. Please answer what I can expect.

H. OLADOWSKI,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 5, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard desires that private freight be excluded from the railroad cars until Government stores shall be transported. The road has no right to reject Government freight and assume the position that they will not receipt for it.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 5, 1865.*

Commodore W. W. HUNTER,
Commanding Naval Forces:

COMMODORE: General Beauregard instructs me to request that you will order the 100 men which you advised him you could spare to report to Colonel Nesbitt at Warren Block, to aid in the removal of cotton.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 5, 1865—11 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have just received a telegram from Colonel Carswell asking if transportation would be sent to Green's Cut. I have told him to march to Spirit Creek. I wrote to you that trains for 500 men

would be at Allen's Station at daylight this morning. Subsequently General Beauregard ordered 300 negroes to be brought up. Unfortunately the superintendent did not get this order till 9 o'clock this morning. The trains went down for your men, but returned, reporting that they were not there. We want to get 500 of your men and 300 negroes here to-day. You must use your judgment about the best mode. If no trains for one party, it had better march. Please let me know if you could send fifty men to relieve Captain Allen at Shell Bluff. His mounted men are much needed.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 5, 1865.

General BEAUREGARD,
Augusta, Ga.:

My forces are, by order of General Hardee, holding the South Edisto to Binnaker's Bridge. McLaws is here. The enemy are moving slowly and cautiously, and apparently upon this place. Are there any troops at Columbia bridge? If not, can I send a suitable force there?

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 5, 1865.

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Can I send a brigade and Wheaton's battery to take position at Columbia? I can hear of no troops there. Will the operator and instruments come to-day?

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

BRANCHVILLE, S. C., *February 5, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

The movement of the infantry from Binnaker's Bridge direct to Columbia, exposing its flank for sixty miles, would be certainly hazardous, if not impracticable. In the event I should be obliged to cross the Congaree I request that you will order at least two trains to be on the Columbia road to my orders. I cannot cross without. Please answer at once.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 5, 1865.

General McLAWS,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Please give Colonel Henderson, whose troops I left at New Bridge subject to your command, agreeable to the order of Gen-

eral Hardee, definite instructions as to the time and manner of retiring from his position to Orangeburg. I leave for that place in the morning. I have instructed General Palmer, commanding at Cannon's Bridge, to inform you, should it be necessary to retire from it. Please give him timely notice of your withdrawal from New Bridge. One of my men told me to-night that he saw no guard at the railroad bridge as he passed, a short time before.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding Corps.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 9.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Upon being relieved by Cumming's brigade, now in motion therefor, Palmer's brigade will be dispatched, via New Bridge and Midway, to Cannon's Bridge, on the Edisto. General Palmer, after giving the necessary order for the move, will repair to Cannon's Bridge and assume command of the troops there. He will place himself in communication with General Deas, at Binnaker's Bridge, and with General McLaws at Branchville, with a view to the defense of the Edisto line. Should the troops retire from either of these places, or he be compelled to march from Cannon's, General Palmer will retire toward Orangeburg.

By command of Major-General Stevenson:

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Postscript to Special Orders, No. 9, and to a letter to General Deas, February 5, 1865.—It is of the utmost importance that the bridges on the Edisto shall not fall into the hands of the enemy, and commanders will give their personal attention to their destruction at the proper time, should it become necessary to do so.

By command of Major-General Stevenson:

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 5, 1865.

[General DEAS:]

GENERAL: You will disembark your division at Midway, march it across the Edisto at Cannon's Bridge, and there bivouac for the night. At early dawn you will move to Binnaker's Bridge, and take command of the troops at that point. You will place yourself in communication with the cavalry in your front, with a view to the defense of that crossing. Should your flank be uncovered by the cavalry or the troops at Cannon's Bridge withdrawn, you will retire toward Orangeburg.

By command of Major-General Stevenson:

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—It is of the utmost importance that the bridges on the Edisto shall not fall into the hands of the enemy, and commanders will give their personal attention to their destruction at the proper time, should it become necessary to do so.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Springtown, S. C., February 5, 1865.

General S. COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General, C. S. Army, Richmond, Va. :

GENERAL: I had the honor some time since to recommend for promotion Brig. Gen. W. Y. C. Humes and Brig. Gen. William W. Allen to command the divisions which are now under their command, and which they have commanded almost continuously for nearly a year. I have another division in my command which requires, for proper organization, a major-general. I would respectfully recommend that one of the following officers be appointed for that position, viz, Brig. Gen. Felix H. Robertson, of Texas; Brig. Gen. G. G. Dibrell, of Tennessee, or Brig. Gen. R. H. Anderson, of Georgia. I certify on honor that I think the interests of the service would be best subserved by the appointment of one of the above-named officers to command that division, than by selecting an officer from another command. All of these five officers have been wounded one or more times while gallantly fighting under my command, and, with one exception, under my immediate observation. These officers always manage their commands well in action, obey my orders explicitly, and I have always met with fine success while these officers have been serving under me. The soldiers as well as officers of my command know these officers well, and have every confidence in their discretion and courage. More than half of the general officers of my command have been assigned, instead of promoting colonels, which has discouraged my officers, which was noticed and remarked upon by General Beauregard's inspector-general (Major Bryan). I feel it due to my command, as well as to my superior officers, that I should make such recommendations as will result to the best advantage of the service. In closing I would state that most of the assignments which have been made to my command have proved disadvantageous to it and the cause. Brigadier-General Allen is a native and resident of Alabama; Brigadier-General Humes is a native and resident of Tennessee; Brigadier-General Robertson is a native and resident of Texas; Brigadier-General Dibrell is a native and resident of Tennessee, and Brigadier-General Anderson is a native and resident of Georgia. If the Department has heard that my command is lacking in discipline, or has not been as successful as other cavalry in its operations, I beg they will have the matter investigated before declining to promote the officers now in my command to fill the vacancies which now exist, or which may occur. Brave and temperate officers, who are entirely devoted to their duties, will do most to bring this struggle to a successful termination, and such is the character of each one of the officers recommended above. While the country generally and some other commands are somewhat dispirited, my command, on the contrary, maintains the highest spirits, harmony of feeling, and the utmost confidence. I trust that nothing will be done to mar in the slightest degree this state of things, which is so essential to success. Besides this, my command is as strong in numbers as it was in the beginning of the campaign in May, 1864, notwithstanding it has lost since that time about 3,000 in killed and wounded.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—If deemed best, I recommend that the promotions be made to temporary rank; then the Department can at any time put them back to the positions these officers now hold, should it become the interests to do so.

Major-General WHEELER:

AUGUSTA, *February 5, 1865.*

ObeY General Hardee's instructions, but should you find that the enemy intends moving in force on Columbia instead of Augusta, join your command to Hampton's to oppose his progress.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

General WHEELER:

BRANCHVILLE, S. C., *February 5, 1865.*

Please communicate with General Deas at Binnaker's Bridge, and keep him advised, that he may move in time, should it be necessary. Please send six couriers to the command at Binnaker's Bridge, and twenty to me at Orangeburg. Otherwise we cannot keep up communication; we have none.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

Captain P. N. PAGE:

FORT SUMTER, *February 5, 1865—5.45 a. m.*

Blockaders firing at a vessel which has just come in.

T. A. HUGUENIN,
Captain, Commanding.

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

WILMINGTON, *February 5, 1865.*

The enemy's forces in this department largely exceed my command, any diminution of which would seriously endanger the whole. Should you think otherwise I will detach any portion you think may be spared and do all in my power to hold him in check.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

Colonel ANDERSON:

FEBRUARY 5, 1865.

The enemy crossed the Rowanty four miles above Stony Creek this morning and cut telegraph line, moving toward Petersburg and tearing down line as they advanced. Confederate line via Greensborough has been down two days. We expect it to be O. K. to-morrow morning. At present we are using the railroad line to Richmond. General Bragg's message was sent by that line. The enemy were reported within four miles of Midway, S. C., to-day about 2 o'clock. At 4 o'clock we lost current from Augusta, and supposed they reached the road, as we have not had Augusta up to this hour.

Respectfully,

OPERATOR.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 5, 1865—6 p. m.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

A party of the enemy landed at Battery Lamb to-day, and were still there at last accounts. They threw out pickets and appeared to

be at work getting timber. We picked up four of them, sailors who straggled. They say (I give it for what it is worth) that Grant and Hancock were here a week ago; they are expecting re-enforcements; that a transport loaded with negro troops arrived last night; landed at Fisher. They knew, when asked, the number of guns in Fort Anderson. They say they are getting timber at Lamb to be used at Fisher. The party which landed the other day told the inhabitants the same thing.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 5, 1865.*

Governor JOSEPH E. BROWN,
Macon, Ga.:

The crisis is again upon your State. I earnestly call on Your Excellency to send at once to General Smith, for the defense of Augusta, all the forces you can possibly put in the field. Any man who returns to the army an absentee should be exempted.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, *February 5, 1865.*

Governor A. G. MAGRATH,
Columbia, S. C.:

The crisis is again upon your State. I earnestly call on Your Excellency to assemble at Columbia all the available forces of the State, exempting, however, any one who will return an absentee to the army.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[FEBRUARY 6, 1865.—For General Orders, No. 3, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, announcing appointment of General R. E. Lee as General-in-Chief of the Armies of the Confederate States, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1205.]

AUGUSTA, *February 6, 1865.*
(Received 12.30 p. m. 7th.)

General S. COOPER:

Sherman is reported to have now six corps—Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Seventeenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, and Twenty-third—amounting probably to about 54,000 infantry and artillery, with about 4,000 cavalry.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[FEBRUARY 6, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1070.]

[FEBRUARY 6, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1070.]

CHARLESTON, *February 6, 1865.*

(Received 9 o'clock 7th.)

General S. COOPER:

Your dispatch of 5th inquiring why the cotton in Savannah was not destroyed before evacuation of the city is received. The cotton was distributed throughout the city in cellars, garrets, and warehouses, where it could not have been burnt without destroying the city. It had not been sent off by railroad previous to the cutting of the road, and because railroad transportation was monopolized for removal of ordnance, commissary, and other important Government stores. From the cutting of the road to the evacuation of the city—twelve days—every man was required to work on the lines, and every wagon, dray, and cart that could be impressed was needed to keep the troops in a line twelve miles long supplied with ordnance and commissary stores. Not a man nor a woman could have been spared to collect the cotton in a place where it could have been burnt.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 6, 1865—8 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH,
Allen's Station:

Browne's men will not answer for the work contemplated, for reasons which I will give you privately. If you are willing to relieve Hazzard's men at Shell Bluff you will find the order inclosed authorizing the company there (Captain Allen's, I think) to return here. The courier lost a dispatch last night from Iverson between Allen's Station and this point. It may have been an important one. I wish you to open all dispatches coming to me at Allen's Station. Inclosed is the authority for the same. If Captain Cooper is with you I think you had better have works thrown up on the two crossings from Green's Cut and on the railroad. The lost dispatch has just been found. Iverson reports Nineteenth Corps, Sheridan's, at No. 2, and Kilpatrick near Springfield.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 6, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

Col. C. C. CREWS,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: Do you watch the approaches to Augusta from the direction of Branchville? The Yankees last night were moving toward Blackville. It is important that you cover the approaches in that direction and notify us. I am placing troops on Big Horse Creek. At present Colonel Cumming is there in command near the bridge. You should send a note to him as well as to me in case of an advance this way. As I understand it, you are to guard all the approaches to the city, so that we may not be surprised, and that you will delay with all your power an advance of the Yankees. Put a pass on the back of your letter for the courier.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 6, 1865—9.15 p. m.*

Colonel CREWS:

Wheeler is to-night between Graham's and Blackville. He will probably retire upon Augusta. Keep me constantly appraised of what is going on in your front. I hope that you have active and vigilant scouts. If not in communication with Wheeler you must judge for yourself the proper time for retiring, recollecting, however, the importance of preventing an advance in your direction.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 6, 1865—4.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of to-day, declining to place the transportation to secure the crossing of the Congaree at my command, is received. The river below Columbia cannot be crossed except at the railroad bridge, and it is not and cannot now be made practicable, even for infantry. In my opinion, the safety of the command may depend upon that crossing, the enemy having a shorter line, by twenty miles, to Columbia by other routes; and I respectfully ask again that you place the proper means therefor at my disposal.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 6, 1865.

General DEAS, or
COMMANDING OFFICER AT BINNAKER'S BRIDGE:

GENERAL: It is probable that the enemy will strike the railroad to-day, and you must have your scouts well out in front, so as to give yourself ample time to destroy the bridge before they reach the river.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Brigadier-General DEAS,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Your letter of yesterday, informing the major-general commanding of your ability to subsist your command on the country, has been received. He directs me to inform you that Colonel Johnson, commanding Stovall's brigade, has been ordered to Binnaker's Bridge, and Colonel Carter is on the road to join you. As soon as either of these brigades reach you you will commence moving up the river to Holman's Bridge, and when Colonel Johnson arrives you will move your whole division to Holman's Bridge and the bridge above, leaving Colonel Johnson where you now are, with all the instructions you may think proper to give him. You must keep scouts out and communicate with the cavalry. It is probable that it will cross at these points. He

wishes every preparation made to burn these bridges, but not to be set on fire until you are satisfied that they have crossed or not going to cross. You are aware that the destruction of these bridges is of vital importance. Should you have to retire, you will send all the wagons but two that were sent you from here back to Orangeburg. Should it become necessary for you to fall back, you will march to Columbia. You can take one section of Kanapaux's battery with you.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Brigadier-General PALMER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I am directed to inform you that Colonel Johnson, commanding brigade, has relieved General Deas at Binnaker's Bridge. You will therefore communicate with Colonel Johnson, and be responsible for any fords between you and him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Colonel JOHNSON,
Commanding:

COLONEL: General Stevenson directs that you move at once to Binnaker's Bridge, taking the same road that Colonel Carter marched on, and relieve General Deas. You will keep in communication with commanders on your right and left. Special instructions will be given by General Deas as to the defense of the position.

Respectfully, your most obedient servant.

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 6, 1865.*

COMMANDING OFFICER, COLUMBIA, S. C.:

It is still uncertain whether enemy, after reaching Branchville, will move on Augusta, Columbia, or Charleston. He may move on two last at once, without our being able to check him long. Make, accordingly, all necessary preparations. Communicate this to Governor Magrath and General Winder.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 6, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

I informed you last night to follow instructions of General Hardee, looking, however, to support of Generals Hampton and Stevenson for defense of Columbia and crossings of Congaree. Columbia is more important than Augusta.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,
Chief Engineer, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: In reply to your communication of the 26th ultimo, in relation to the repairs to the Georgia railroads, General Beauregard instructs me to say:

First. That he has been at all times ready to co-operate with Captain Grant and render him every aid and facility in his power. This willingness has been communicated to Captain Grant on several occasions.

Second. Delays in the prosecution of the work are sometimes unavoidable, and wherever any act of "impressment" on the ground of "military necessity" has arisen, the authority for the exercise of such a power has, in order to avoid delay, been given.

The engineers have only asked for such authority in two instances—the impressment of iron from the Augusta and Savannah and the Macon and Brunswick Railroads. The authority was granted in both cases. To-day an application was made for transportation of the iron, but military pressure for the transportation of troops and supplies is so great and means so limited that a delay for several days in answering this call will ensue. But as soon as the necessity shall cease the means of transportation will be ordered.

Third. It is impracticable at present to order the removal of the iron from the Mayfield and Washington Branch Roads. They have now become lines of communication of the first importance. Washington and Abbeville may become our future base of supplies for the army in Virginia.

The Athens Branch is important as an auxiliary to the other roads. The order for the removal of the iron from the Mobile and Girard Railroad was recalled, because it was ascertained that only a few miles of T rail could be obtained from that road on the end near Columbus, the other portion of the road being laid with flat rail. It was deemed unnecessary to destroy the usefulness of the entire road for the few miles of iron which could be made available where no equipment could be obtained. In lieu of iron from this source, the Fort Gaines road was resorted to.

Fourth. General Beauregard directs me also to say that he is personally unacquainted with Captain Grant, who may be fully possessed of all the professional skill and intelligence accredited to him, but that, judging of his energy by his results, the general feels bound to give credit to the general reputation of Captain Grant's "slowness," which reputation extends from this place to Montgomery. In the same length of time Major Hottle has nearly repaired a length of road equal to that under charge of Captain Grant, which the latter will not complete until the first or middle of April.

In conclusion, general, you may rest assured that every aid and facility in the power of General Beauregard will be given to Major Myers and Captain Grant to push forward their labors to rapid completion.

I have the honor to be, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 6, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c., Augusta, Ga.:

GENERAL: General Beauregard desires me to call your attention to the fact that it has been represented to him there is more tobacco than cotton accumulated in Augusta. He desires that as soon as you shall have made the necessary arrangements for preventing the cotton from falling into the hands of the enemy you will take the proper steps to prevent the tobacco stored in this city from being also seized by the enemy. If necessary, it would be effectually destroyed by being thrown into the river.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c., Augusta, Ga.:

GENERAL: General Beauregard desires that you will direct General Ferguson, with his command, to move here, and that General Iverson be instructed, in addition to watching closely in his front, to send out scouting parties toward the Ogeechee, to observe the movements of the enemy in that direction. Instruct General Ferguson to report promptly his arrival on Brier Creek.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 6, 1865.*

Brigadier-General FREY,
Commanding at Augusta:

GENERAL: General Beauregard desires that you will halt the Federal prisoners reported to be at Mayfield at once, and in his name order them back to Andersonville, or such other place in Georgia where the Federal prisoners may be confined.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GRAHAM'S, *February 6, 1865—11.50 p. m.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Enemy will certainly take possession of railroad to-morrow, and I shall get between him and Augusta. I have sent one brigade to re-enforce Colonel Crews, who is now between enemy and Augusta. Should he move toward Columbia, I will cross bridge above and get in his front. I have ordered all bridges below Holman's Bridge destroyed.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 6, 1865.

General IVERSON:

GENERAL: I send you an order of General Beauregard with indorsement so full as to preclude the necessity of details in a letter. I leave it to your judgment whether to withdraw Colonel Hawkins or not. You ought to concentrate everything for a fight. Wheeler had held the railroad up to 5 o'clock this morning, but thought that he would lose it to-day. We are concerned to know whether the Twenty-third Corps is at or near Savannah, and whether Kilpatrick has crossed.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, *February 6, 1865.*
(Received 7th.)

General BRAGG,
Wilmington:

Constructor Porter can complete the new vessel in ninety days. Machinery is ready at Columbus to suit. I do not wish to move it without reliable assurance that Wilmington will be held long enough [to complete] the work. Before ordering it on, therefore, please advise me the chances of our holding Wilmington.

S. R. MALLORY,
*Secretary of the Navy.*HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Wilmington, February 6, 1865.*Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: I inclose a copy of a communication* from General Baker relative to movements of the enemy at Morehead City and New Berne. From other reports I am satisfied some important operation is on foot in that quarter.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Wilmington, February 6, 1865.*Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,
Chief Engineer, Richmond:

GENERAL: I have your confidential letter in regard to the Wilmington and Rutherford Railroad. Immediately on its receipt I took measures to inform myself in regard to its importance, public and private, as well as its availability. I find a large proportion of the supplies, probably one-half, used by the troops in this region, is drawn from the country bordering this road, and a still larger proportion of the subsistence for the citizens reaches them by this route. But this is not the main consideration inducing me to defer action on your suggestions. The road, though not absolutely owned by, is mortgaged to, the State of North Carolina, and any attempt to seize it under the impress-

* Not found.

ment law will be resisted. Indeed, this was once done, and the State defeated the attempt and held the road. You can find the proceedings on file in the War Department, dated about one year ago. The only hope, then, it seems to me, is to appeal to Governor Vance on the subject, and endeavor to obtain the consent of the State. With this view I shall defer action for further advice.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BRAXTON BRAGG.

WHITEVILLE, *February 6, 1895.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Wilmington :

Reports confirm landing of enemy in considerable force at Little River. Supposed purpose, raid on this place.

P. F. CAMPBELL,
Operator.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 11. } *Wilmington, February 6, 1865.*

In addition to his duties as chief surgeon of the Third Military District, Surgeon Logan will discharge those of medical director of the department until an assignment is made.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *February 6, 1865—6.20 p. m.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General :

Mrs. Lamb will be received on the enemy's lines to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

Mrs. Lamb ought to leave Wilmington by 7 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Respectfully,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Telegraph General Hoke Mrs. Lamb will be sent down as soon as she arrives, but may not be here by that hour. Have everything ready to send her—ambulance, wagon, &c.

B. B[RAGG].

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 6, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster :

MAJOR: General Beauregard desires that a pontoon train, composed of sixty boats, fully equipped, be ordered here at once by rail. Let them follow the wagon train as early as practicable.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 6, 1865.*

Maj. W. F. AYER,
Chief Quartermaster, Army of Tennessee:
(Care of post quartermaster, Columbus, Ga.)

General Beauregard directs me by telegraph to instruct you to send the wagons by rail and the horses by land to Augusta. This is all-important. Acknowledge receipt of this dispatch.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.]

AUGUSTA, *February 7, 1865.*

Hereafter no trunk will be allowed to any staff officer whilst in movement. From this date officers will move in light marching order. One valise will only be allowed for clothing.

By order of General Beauregard:

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 7, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Augusta, Ga.:

Following just received from Major Ayer by telegraph from Columbus, Ga., in answer to my telegram communicating your order:

Telegram received. Wagons not yet arrived at this place. How are they to be shipped by rail to Augusta when there is a break of thirty-two miles?

Have telegraphed Major Ayer to communicate with you or General Beauregard on the subject.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 7, 1865.*

Maj. W. F. AYER,
Chief Quartermaster Army of Tennessee, Columbus, Ga.:

Telegram regarding wagons received. Communicate with General Beauregard or Major Willis at Augusta.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
 } GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
 No. 32. } *Charleston, S. C., February 7, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

VII. Maj. Gen. P. M. B. Young, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to the command of Iverson's division of cavalry. He will proceed without delay to Georgia and assume command accordingly.

VIII. Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton, Provisional Army, C. S., having reported for duty in this department, is assigned to the command of Butler's and Young's divisions of cavalry.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 7, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. A. W. REYNOLDS:

GENERAL: The men you sent down have all run off. Mr. Glenn promised that a company should be formed from them for Dearing's battery, but we have proof that he made them a speech, telling them that they were going to be taken from him, and advising them to run off. This they did, after selling all the public property they had in camp. I hope that you will take prompt action in the case. I sent you an order yesterday from General Beauregard to send 500 men as a guard to the stores at Washington, Ga., to report to Colonel Rudler, commanding post.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 7, 1865—11 a. m.*

Colonel CUMMING:

COLONEL: I can't find out whether any of the Western troops have gone out to you or not. Please let me know. If Captain Lumpkin is with your command put him in position. The two 3-inch rifles have come up for him and he can get them at any time. The Yankees got on the railroad last night. Two brigades of Wheeler's command are between them and Augusta. Make your arrangements for defense and vigilance as though they were not there.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 7, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

If your health will permit, I consider it of great importance that you should come here at once.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 7, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Send at least 500 additional cavalry across the Edisto. Let one regiment report to Major-General Stevenson.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 7, 1865—11 a. m.*

Colonel C. C. CREWS,
Commanding, &c.:

COLONEL: Your dispatch of last night, 11 p. m., received. You will keep up communication on your left, by pickets and scouts, with General Wheeler and communicate with him. He telegraphs that he had sent another brigade to your support. You somewhat misunderstood my note. It was meant simply to apprise you of the state of things on the railroad, and of what was required of you in case of an advance upon Augusta. It was not intended that you should abandon the line

of Three Runs, if you could there the better check the Yankees. However, should they turn the position by the railroad, your safety requires its abandonment. At all events you must keep between them and Augusta. There will be a strong infantry force at Big Horse Creek to-day. When you are compelled to cross it, report in advance to the commanding officer there. Colonel Cumming is in immediate command at the bridge and Beach Island road.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 7, 1865.

Brigadier-General IVERSON:

GENERAL: General B[eauregard] directs that you turn over your forage wagons as directed, and concentrate your command at Rae's Bridge. You will so dispose of your men as to protect the line of telegraph to Millen. You will effectually destroy Brannon's Bridge. You will still keep scouts and pickets as near Sister's Ferry as possible, and ascertain all that you can in regard to the movements, plans, and strength of the Yankees. I duplicate an order to you ordering General Ferguson's moving without delay to this place. If Colonel Harris is on the other side of the Ogeechee you can order Colonel Hawkins to join you, and may do so in any event, provided you think that his command is not essential on Taylor's Creek, and in that county. You must move promptly to Rae's Bridge. Duplicate the order to General Ferguson and be sure that he gets it. Acknowledge receipt of this.

D. H. HILL.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA.
Wilmington, February 7, 1865.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh:

SIR: Great activity prevails in the enemy's lines about New Berne, and he is industriously engaged in repairing the railroad toward Kinston and collecting supplies, especially forage. These indications clearly point to a movement toward the State capital. I will keep you advised of all that we learn on the subject, but sufficient is known now to justify me in asking you to urge forward the organization of your State forces and to have them in hand ready to aid us the moment the movement is developed. Goldsborough will be the point for our concentration and we must be in time to meet the enemy east of the railroad. General Grant has been to Beaufort and New Berne recently, no doubt to initiate this movement.

I am, governor, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

WILMINGTON, *February 7, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

General Grant visited his troops in this State last week. Great activity now prevails at Beaufort and New Berne. Troops are arriving,

supplies are accumulating, and heavy working parties are repairing the railroad toward Goldsborough. Operations in that quarter may soon be expected.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,

Wilmington, February 7, 1865.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: Lieutenant-Colonel Pemberton, artillery, has furnished me with a copy of his report of inspections made here, in which it is stated that the guns at Batteries Davis and Lee do not bear upon the obstructions in the river, and that those at Batteries Campbell and Meares do not command them. This is an error, as will appear from the report of Brigadier-General Hébert, chief engineer, a copy of which is inclosed. Lieutenant-Colonel Pemberton supposed there was only one line of obstructions, whereas there are two, one the upper, visible, the other sunken. The inclosed copy of the report of Lieutenant-Colonel Oladowski, chief ordnance officer, will show the condition of the armament of these works, hastily put in order after the fall of Fort Fisher.*

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,

General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

OFFICE CHIEF ENGINEER,

DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,

Wilmington, February 4, 1865.

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of North Carolina:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I have to-day made an examination of the batteries at the obstructions of the Cape Fear River, below the town of Wilmington, with a view to ascertain how far the several guns in the batteries command the obstructions. I took the batteries one after the other, commencing with the nearest to town, and in the following notes I number the guns from right to left. The report is made in connection with the inspection report of Lieut. Col. J. C. Pemberton, of which you have furnished me a copy.

BATTERY DAVIS.

First, one 24-pounder, long, not banded, rifled; second, one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; third, one 24-pounder, smooth-bore. These three guns bear on both the upper and lower obstructions, and also on the lower mouth of Brunswick River. There are in this battery three empty gun chambers.

BATTERY LEE.

First, one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; second, one single-banded rifled 32-pounder. Both guns in this battery bear on the upper and lower obstructions, and on the lower end of Brunswick River.

* For "Chart of the obstructions in the Cape Fear and Brunswick Rivers, and them," see Plate LXVIII, Map 7 of the Atlas.

BATTERY CAMPBELL.

First, one 30-pounder Parrott on the right of the battery, which will be mounted by to-morrow, if not to-day. It will bear upon the upper and lower obstructions and mouth of Brunswick River. It will be our best gun to keep the enemy at long range below the lower obstructions. Second, one 9-inch Dahlgren on navy carriage. Bears fully on lower obstructions and on lower mouth of Brunswick River, and can be brought to bear on upper obstructions to one-half the river Cape Fear. Third, one 9-inch Dahlgren on navy carriage. Bears fully on lower obstructions and lower mouth of Brunswick River. Can be brought to bear on the upper obstructions to one-half of the river Cape Fear. Fourth, one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer. Bears on lower obstructions and lower mouth of Brunswick River. Can be brought to bear by cutting down end of right traverse to one-half river at upper obstructions. Fifth, one long smooth-bore 32-pounder. Bears on lower obstructions and lower mouth of Brunswick River. This gun cannot be brought to bear on upper obstructions. On the immediate left of Battery Campbell, and nearer the river, a sunken battery is now being constructed, in which it is intended to mount two smooth-bore 24-pounders, which were dismounted from Battery Campbell lately and replaced by the two 9-inch Dahlgrens. When this sunken battery is placed, the two guns will bear on the lower obstructions and on the Brunswick River mouth. The one on the right will also bear on upper obstructions. One carriage and chassis will be wanted for one of the two guns.

BATTERY MEARES.

First, one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; second, one long smooth-bore 32-pounder; third, one 9-inch Dahlgren on navy carriage; fourth, one single-banded 32-pounder, rifled; fifth, one 24-pounder, rifled, not banded, and lately dismounted to make room for the rifled 32-pounder. The mounted guns bear on the lower obstructions and the mouth of Brunswick River, but cannot be made to bear on the upper obstructions. On the right of Battery Lee about fifty yards is a work which was once a two-gun casemated battery. The casemates have been closed on the outside and two platforms built over them for barbette guns. There are no guns there now. I respectfully suggest that two guns be taken from the land line of Wilmington and placed in the battery. There are on the land line of Wilmington twelve 32-pounders and six 24-pounders, all smooth-bores.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

LOUIS HEBERT,
Brigadier-General and Chief Engineer.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Wilmington, February 5, 1865.

Lient. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Wilmington, N. C.:

COLONEL: In obedience to instructions from headquarters of this department, I inspected the armament of Fort Anderson, and have the honor to report that it consists of nine 32-pounder guns on barbette carriages, front pintle, wooden traverse circles. They are: Two rifled, unbanded; two oldest pattern of the United States, which kind of guns were condemned by U. S. inspectors previous to year 1860, and five

of pattern of 1840. Below the fort is a work armed with one 32-pounder gun of oldest pattern, as described (two of them in the fort). The projectiles for these guns are 913 shot, 708 shell, 39 grape, and 106 canister-shot, with sufficient supply of projecting charges, making 170 rounds for each gun. The implements are in a state to serve the guns in conformity with their number of ammunition. In consequence of augmenting garrison by troops from Forts Caswell, &c., the supply of small-arm ammunition was insufficient, but it was forwarded immediately from ordnance depot at Wilmington. On my inspection of batteries to defend the river obstructions, I found them as follows:

BATTERY MEARES.

Armament.—One 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; one 32-pounder smooth-bore, and one 24-pounder rifle, on indifferent barbette carriages, front pintle, wooden traverse circles. Projectiles for 8-inch—62 shell, 32 spherical case-shot, 48 shell, unstrapped, 10 grape-shot. For 32-pounder—32 shell, 189 shot, 27 grape, and 48 canister-shot. For 24-pounder, rifled—125 shell, 28 shot. Cartridges—100 8-pound, 76 6-pound, 1,100 pounds cannon powder.

BATTERY CAMPBELL.

Armament.—One 8-inch light navy shell gun; two 24-pounder smooth-bores; one 32-pounder smooth-bore, on indifferent barbette carriages, front pintles, wooden circles. Ammunition for 8-inch—50 shell; for 24-pounder—24 shell, 189 shot; for 32-pounder—69 shell. As the metal of armament of these batteries was insufficient to obtain the expected results, I was instructed to procure from the Navy Department such guns as could be spared. Commander Pinckney, being applied to, ordered to turn over three 9-inch Dahlgrens, one 6-inch banded and one 30-pounder Parrott, with requisite implements, as far as could be obtained in emergency, as the supplies not necessary for immediate service in navy and army ordnance department were ordered to be sent to interior, and consequently the necessary articles cannot be procured immediately. The 9-inch Dahlgrens being used only by navy, could not be mounted in so short a time. It was impossible to mount them on other than navy gun carriages, but the application was made to the commanding officer at Fayetteville arsenal for suitable barbette carriages, one of which is received and sent to Fort Meares, and two others will be forwarded as soon as possible. In consequence of the above changes the batteries are at present armed:

BATTERY MEARES.

Armament.—One 6-inch, rifled, banded; one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; one 9-inch Dahlgren, and one 32-pounder smooth-bore.

BATTERY CAMPBELL.

Armament.—Two 9-inch Dahlgrens; one 8-inch navy light shell gun, and one 32-pounder smooth-bore. Few yards of this battery is constructed a detached work containing one 30-pounder Parrott gun, erected in object to have a long range down the river. The ammunition for these batteries is 100 rounds to each gun. The implements are not as sufficient as should be expected, but can render good service until the others can be received, every effort being made to obtain them. Above these batteries and close to the obstructions in the river

are constructed two more batteries, and as their armament is considered to answer the purpose, and the heavier caliber could not be procured in short time, it remained unchanged and consists as follows:

BATTERY LEE.

Armament.—One 32-pounder, rifled, banded, on barbette; one 8-inch navy light shell gun, on casement carriage. Ammunition for 8-inch—88 shell, 28 incendiary shell, 10 spherical case-shot, 17 grape, and 10 canister-shot. For 32-pounder rifle—111 shell, 155 shot. Cartridges—66 8-pound, 154 6-pound, and 900 pounds powder (cannon). The implements in tolerably good order.

BATTERY DAVIS.

Armament.—One 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; one 24-pounder, rifled, unbanded, and one 24-pounder, smooth-bore. Ammunition for 8-inch—47 shot, 36 spherical case-shot, 51 shell filled, and 75 shell not filled. For 24-pounder rifled—167 shell; for 24-pounder smooth-bore—201 shell, 73 shot, 24 canister-shot. Cartridges—371 8-pound, 472 6-pound, 202 4-pound, and 600 pounds cannon powder. The implements, as usual, not in very good preservation. The traverse circles, with the exception of one gun, whose carriage was received from Fayetteville, are made of wood. The ordnance department having no money, I was instructed to apply to the engineer department for usual iron traverse circles, but no result of my application is as yet obtained. The 8-inch guns, being chambered and of light construction, cannot be used to throw solid shot. I respectfully request that instructions be given to the commanding officers of these batteries to the effect that only hollow projectiles and grape or canister shot be used. Concerning the implements of the batteries, I am informed by Major Sloan, commanding officer of ordnance depot at Wilmington, that not long since those defenses were completely furnished. I know by my own observation that the commanders of batteries in many instances (especially where they are often changed) pay little attention to preservation of supplies. I should respectfully submit to your consideration that some means may be devised to preserve and husband the articles issued. Airing ammunition, sheltering implements from rain and sun would greatly add to their efficiency and preservation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. OLADOWSKI,

Chief Ordnance Officer, Department of North Carolina.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,

Wilmington, February 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. LOUIS HÉBERT,

Chief Engineer:

GENERAL: The commanding general has received your note of to-day giving the results of Captain Liernur's examination of landing and roads on the east bank of the Cape Fear, and directs that the work therein proposed be executed with all possible dispatch. Major-General Hoke will receive a copy of your note from this office, with instructions to furnish the necessary guard for his depot.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Wilmington, February 7, 1865.*Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Commanding Division, Sugar Loaf:

GENERAL: I have the instruction of the commanding general to communicate his views to you as follows: The enemy's reconnoitering and marauding parties on the west side of the river should be captured or prevented from coming out at all. Our cavalry is not pushed forward as close to their lines as it should be. The recent capture of prisoners in our front by signal officer points to want of vigor in that arm. Detachments ought not to land with impunity, as they have just done at Battery Lamb. It would seem practicable to greatly annoy, if not capture, the very small garrison at Smithville. Even this effort would enliven our troops, now stagnating and despondent for want of activity. Supplies in the country and telegraph wire close to the Federal lines should be brought out and our people prevented from trading or communicating with the enemy. Such measures would also prevent desertions to the enemy by closing the avenues of approach and stop the recruiting of the U. S. forces from runaway negroes, which is going on to considerable extent.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *February 7, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Have you received information from General Hagood of the enemy landing troops to-day? Nothing of the kind could be seen from this side.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 7, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

Signal operator reports enemy landing troops at Buchanan from transports in the inlet and outside, brought to Buchanan in tugs. They had guns, knapsacks, &c.; wagons hauling up baggage. They were discovered when fog lifted at 12 o'clock. The operator saw, he thinks, 1,200 landed after 12 o'clock. These marched through Fisher to Camp Wyatt. A considerable number of tents also appeared at Camp Wyatt this morning that were not there yesterday; this before the 1,200 marched up.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Wilmington, February 7, 1865.*Col. GEORGE JACKSON,
Commanding Post:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs that you take immediate measures to remove every bale of cotton stored in Wilmington as fast

as transportation by one of the railways can be procured. Major Cameron, who has charge of such shipments, has been instructed to give preference to the cotton now held when it cannot be safely burned.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Goldsborough:

GENERAL: The indications seem to favor active movements by the enemy against you from New Berne. The commanding general desires you, therefore, to hold your troops in hand and to use all possible means to keep fully advised. Your cavalry should be kept in the enemy's immediate presence, and be required to send daily reports of observations, and make occasional dashes on the flanks or rear of the Federals to harass them and retard their operations. To accomplish these objects it will be necessary to concentrate it as far as practicable.

Very respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA.; *February 8, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Armies, &c.:

GENERAL: General Ripley visits you for the purpose of presenting to you his views in regard to matters in South Carolina, and more particularly the city of Charleston. I would be happy if you would afford him the opportunity of giving him an audience on the subjects mentioned, being those concerning which your suggestions to General Beauregard are desired.

Very truly and respectfully, yours,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

AUGUSTA, *February 8, 1865.*
 (Received 8.40 a. m. 9th.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Enemy cut railroad to Charleston yesterday morning near Blackville. Lee's corps is in position on the south fork of the Edisto, protecting the approaches to Columbia. Head of Cheatham's corps arrived here last night. McLaws' division is at and about Branchville. I shall leave here to-morrow for Columbia.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

AUGUSTA, *February 8, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard has been informed that the railroad from Barnett to Washington is out of order. He desires that you will take immediate steps to put it in complete running order.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 8, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard desires that the troops at Mayfield and Camak be hurried to this place at once. You will please take such steps as will effect their transportation here at once.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 8, 1865.*

Col. G. W. RAINS,
Ordnance Department:

COLONEL: General Beauregard directs me to say that he deems it advisable that you commence at once the removal of your stores.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, *February 8, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

General Winder died last night at Florence, S. C. Under the present movements of the enemy his successor to command should be here promptly. Colonel Forno will be here to-day.

W. G. BARTH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted to His Excellency the President.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 No. 32. } *Richmond, February 8, 1865.*

* * * * *

IV. Surg. A. J. Foard is relieved from duty as medical director of the Army of Tennessee and assigned as medical inspector with authority

to inspect the armies and hospitals in the States of Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. His reports will be made direct to the Surgeon-General.

* * * * *

By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 8, 1865—10 p. m.*
(Received 5 p. m. 9th.)

President DAVIS:

The enemy appeared at railroad bridge near Branchville to-day; also at New Bridge, five miles below, and at Binnaker's and Holman's Bridges above. No serious effort made to cross the Edisto. Enemy have driven our forces from railroad bridge over Salkehatchie, and are active at Combahee Ferry. Nothing heard from Wheeler to-day.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 8, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

The troops in this department have been organized into divisions as far as their territorial distribution would allow. Taliaferro's division consists of two brigades, commanded by Brigadier-General Elliott and Colonel Rhett, and numbers about 5,000 effectives. Its organization is upon Special Orders, No. 311, series 1864, from these headquarters, paragraph 4, copy of which was forwarded to your office.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 8, 1865—5 p. m.*

General SMITH:

GENERAL: You will please bring your troops here in the morning, starting at daylight, with two days' cooked rations. Leave General Browne on the river, at the mouth of Spirit Creek. Direct him to impress horses to take the 20-pounder Parrotts to the work there in construction. General Browne must keep a messenger constantly at Allen's Station to carry dispatches to him.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

P. S.—Yankees are between Windsor and Aiken.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, February 8, 1865—6 p. m.

Major-General SMITH:

Captain Kirk informs me that he issued the order last night for the whole of Browne's command to move to Shell Bluff. There is a mistake out somewhere. I understood that Major McCrady was construct-

ing a field-work on the river near the mouth of Spirit Creek. Browne's command were ordered to that point. You had, I understood, directed him to send fifty men to Shell Bluff the day previous to relieve Captain Allen's company. That was all right. I wrote you an hour ago that General Beauregard had directed your whole command to march here at daylight to-morrow, leaving General Browne at mouth of Spirit Creek to fit up and defend the work there. If there has been any mistake about General B. please send a staff officer after him. Fifty of his men are to be left at Shell Bluff, and rest at mouth of Spirit Creek. General B. is to keep a messenger constantly at the courier station near Allen's.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 8, 1865—1.15 p. m.

Colonel CUMMING:

Nothing has been heard from Wheeler or Colonel Crews to-day. The telegraph is not working beyond Aiken. What it means I don't know, but hope that you will have your men well in hand, and that you will keep strong and vigilant pickets at the crossings. The Graniteville road should be well watched.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 8, 1865—5 p. m.*

Col. C. C. CREWS:

COLONEL: General Beauregard wishes me to direct you, unless you have specific orders from General Wheeler of another import, to fall back with your own brigade and the brigade with you (supposed to be Dibrell's) behind Upper Three Runs and connect on your left with General Wheeler. The Yankees now occupy Windsor. Hagan's brigade was stampeded and ran off. A column of infantry is reported to be marching from Barnwell Court-House to Aiken. Truth of the last report not known. Avoid being turned on your left. Have heard nothing from you to-day. Keep me constantly advised.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 8, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Col. C. C. CREWS,
Commanding, &c.:

COLONEL: I sent a special messenger to you to communicate to you General Beauregard's order to fall back upon Upper Three Runs, as the Yankees were at Windsor this afternoon. You must keep well posted as to movements upon your left and guard against being cut off.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston :

I hold the Edisto to Duncan's Bridge with seven brigades. No cavalry co-operating to my knowledge.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston :

I hold as far as Holman's and Duncan's Bridges. Binnaker's has been burned. The cavalry have appeared in front of it and New Bridge—as yet only cavalry. I have not heard from Wheeler for two days. I am trying to find him. I have no cavalry but couriers and scouts. I know of no Confederate cavalry on my right flank.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865—4 p. m.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston :

I am in communication with General Wheeler, and will keep you advised of movements on the right. Bridges as far up as Holman's have been destroyed, the enemy having appeared in small force at that point.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865—6.45 p. m.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston :

The enemy's cavalry has approached my line at several points to-day, but have made no demonstration. Sent Wheeler's battery to-day to Columbia. Wheeler is at Davis' Bridge.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 8, 1865.

(Memorandum for division commanders only.)

It is of the utmost importance that the line of the Edisto should be held as long as possible. With that view you will extend your lines so as to co-operate fully with those on your right and left. If it has not been done the bridges in your front should be thoroughly destroyed and every approach to the river strongly guarded until Jackson's brigade, of Clayton's division, reaches Binnaker's Bridge. General Palmer will guard the river to within two miles of that bridge. The

remaining portion will be guarded by Colonel Johnson. General Deas will avail himself of every means to be informed of the movements of the enemy on his flank. Should the crossing be forced at any point by a strong force of the enemy, and he cannot be dislodged, information will be given promptly to those on the right and left, and the troops will retire, making as much opposition as possible, Deas toward Columbia, the remainder toward Orangeburg. Commanders will keep themselves in communication with any cavalry in their vicinity, with a view to a perfect co-operation with the cavalry.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Near Orangeburg, February 8, 1865.

General CLAYTON,
Branchville:

GENERAL: The Fifth Tennessee Cavalry, now at Branchville, is subject to my orders. You will please hold them there for the present so as to cover a movement of Cumming's brigade should it be necessary to retire from the river. When relieved by General McLaws you will advise Henderson fully as to the manner of retiring to this place, if practicable, relieving his infantry by cavalry before commencing the movement. Instruct the cavalry commander also fully on the subject. There is a large quantity of surplus subsistence stores, which I am trying to put over the Congaree, and it is important this part of the line should be held as long as possible. If forced to move in two or three days and the enemy follow, the cavalry must avail themselves of every point to hold them in check. As soon as Jackson's brigade receives its ammunition it will move quickly to Binnaker's Bridge. I wish the cavalry couriers and vedettes belonging to the Fifth Tennessee, or Frederick's company, established along General McLaws' line, to be relieved by the cavalry, which has been assigned to him, as I need their services on the right of my line, there being none there. Major George will go down to-morrow to receive and distribute such of the transportation in charge of Captain Courteney, assistant quartermaster, as may be serviceable. To provide for accidents to the telegraph I establish a line of couriers from these headquarters to Branchville to-morrow. Use such ammunition as may be needed for Jackson's and Cumming's brigades from that at Rowe's Pump belonging to the State troops, and I will replace it, or give such vouchers as they may require.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865.*

General CLAYTON,
Branchville:

Hurry your brigade to Binnaker's Bridge to re-enforce Stovall. Have they received ammunition? Answer.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 8, 1865—7 p. m.

Colonel JOHNSON,
Commanding, Branchville:

COLONEL: Jackson's brigade, of Clayton's division, has been ordered to join you to-morrow morning. Impress upon your commanders the importance of holding our line, and urge them to extraordinary vigilance. An additional force of cavalry has been ordered to our right flank.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 8, 1865.

Colonel JOHNSON,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: General Stevenson directs that you hold your position. Jackson's [brigade], of your [Clayton's] division, will be at Binnaker's to-night or early to-morrow morning.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg Court-House, February 8, 1865.

COLONEL COMMANDING JACKSON'S BRIGADE:

COLONEL: General Stevenson directs me to inform you that ammunition is now being sent you from Branchville, and a few boxes of caliber .69 from this place. As soon as the ammunition arrives from Branchville you will fill your cartridge-boxes, secure a guide, and march at once to Binnaker's Bridge. If the ammunition, caliber .69, has not arrived when you are ready to march you will leave the men who require that caliber, under charge of a good officer, who will follow as soon as he gets the ammunition.

On arriving at Binnaker's Bridge the senior officer will take command. Send the wagon that carries you the ammunition from Branchville to General Deas at Holman's Bridge.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865.*

E. M. GILBERT,
Superintendent Railroad, Branchville:

The Dr. Thompson is sent to carry cotton to Charleston. Will it be used therefor? I wish to send about 100 militia by rail to Kingsville. When can they go?

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND AND THIRD MILITARY DISTRICTS,
DEPT. OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Charleston, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Colonel RHETT:

It is reported to me that there is still a good deal of property on the wreck of the steamer Rattlesnake, and that much of that saved has been secreted by the men, and that already some has been brought to town. I wish you to send working parties, under responsible officers, to secure all the property and as much of the machinery, and especially brass and copper, as possible, and have it placed under guard. You will turn over to the commissary, Major Robertson, all the subsistence stores, and to the quartermaster all other property, and they will have it brought up to the city. The owners agree to pay one-third salvage in kind, which will be allotted after the property reaches the city. I wish you to send out parties to search for and seize all property taken from the wreck found in the hands of unauthorized persons. Major Bulkley, chief commissary, will leave here this evening, and I desire you to give him all assistance and aid in visiting the wreck and making arrangements for the securing and removing of the commissary stores.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. TALIAFERRO,
Brigadier-General.

GUIGNARD'S BRIDGE, S. C., February 8, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,

Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: I inclose you recommendations that I have made for promotions to major-general, simply to let you know they have been made. General Hardee has recommended General Young for that position, to command a division of my troops, and General Beauregard has recommended General Ferguson for same position. General Hardee, as well as every one connected with this command, knows the impropriety of appointing General Ferguson, and I think it would do harm to appoint General Young, as I have better officers, and it would be great injustice to overlook them and appoint officers from other commands. I think the most proper appointments will be Humes, Allen, and Robertson for major-generals; or if Robertson is thought too young, you might substitute Dibrell. He is a most excellent officer upon the field. You can hardly find a better or more reliable man. All four are brave, efficient, and subordinate, and can be thoroughly relied upon. I only ask their appointments to temporary rank, so that the Department may at any time return them to their old grades. I hope no more assignments will be made, as they do harm, dispirit our officers, and nearly all have proved bad. The enemy struck the railroad yesterday at noon. I had been retarding them for twenty-two days, during which they marched less than sixty miles. Sherman's force, exclusive of cavalry, is not less than 45,000. I will send on an organization of his forces to you in a few days. I have made it up myself from the statements of prisoners. I think it is nearly correct, though it is not quite full. My command is in good spirits, and as full as it has been at any time during the last year. I find, to my surprise, that the Department thought I commanded all the cavalry of the Army of Tennessee last summer. It was not so. I only commanded half, while Jackson commanded the other half. I had nothing to do with him

whatever. Officers from the Army of Tennessee say the wish in the army is for either you or General Johnston to command them. General Deas told me the sentiment was about equal for either. The army is in bad plight and needs something to cheer them up.

With highest regards, your obedient servant and friend,
J. WHEELER.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 8, 1865—4.15 p. m.

Lient. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I have established my headquarters at Kitchen's house, about a mile and a half from Pine Log Bridge. I have a regiment fortified at the bridge with a fortified picket and scouts in front. Are there any further instructions for Colonel Crews' and Colonel Hagan's brigades?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 8, 1865—7.20 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to state Lieutenant Shamblin, of the Twelfth Alabama Cavalry, has just reached here and reports that the enemy came upon Colonel Hagan about 4 p. m. to-day about two miles west of Williston and made one general charge upon him and swept over him. Lieutenant Shamblin took to the woods before reaching Windsor, but heard firing afterward above Windsor. He thinks that it was the whole of Kilpatrick's force. From Lieutenant Shamblin's account and his estimate of the force of the enemy I fear that many of the men were captured. I have, besides placing a regiment to defend Pine Log Bridge, sent seventy-five men to Scott's Bridge, above this, and have directed the courier-line to cross the river at Cook's Bridge, eight miles above Pine Log Bridge. I have heard nothing further from Colonel Crews.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 8, 1865.

General HAMPTON or BUTLER,
Columbia, S. C.:

I will start for you this morning, by dirt road, Wheaton's battery of artillery. Have you any forces on the direct road from Columbia to the Augusta railroad? Will you operate in that direction? Please keep me advised of your movements. Is there a sufficient guard at Columbia?

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865—6.45 p. m.*

General WADE HAMPTON, *Columbia:*

Dispatch received. The line of the Edisto is well guarded by infantry. Wheeler at Davis' Bridge. The enemy's cavalry have approached the river at several points, but have made no demonstration. Without his movements are further developed Young's brigade will be needed, but I will hasten him to you as soon as he can be spared.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, February 8, 1865.

General IVERSON:

GENERAL: You will use all dispatch in concentrating about Green's Cut, picketing at Rae's Bridge. Have a messenger constantly at the telegraph office, and be ready to move at a moment's notice. Yankees are between Windsor and Aiken.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 8, 1865—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General IVERSON, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: The ordering up of Colonel Hawkins is approved, but General Beauregard thinks that Colonel Harris had better be left in that country on or about Taylor's Creek, in vicinity of position occupied by Colonel Hawkins, Fifth Kentucky. General Ferguson was placed under your orders. Did you send him to Hawkinsville? If not, General Beauregard directs that you prefer charges against him and forward them to me. Get your command at Rae's Bridge as soon as possible, and be ready to move at a moment's notice this way. Send again the order below to General Ferguson.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 8, 1865.*

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond:

I hope your gun-boat will be pushed to completion. This place will be held so long as our means enable us. There is no indication of any movement against it, and our means of defense are improving.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RICHMOND, *February 8, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Wilmington:*

President has telegraphed General Lee that he desires your presence for conference, if you can be spared long enough. If you come, telegraph me too.

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 8, 1865.

General B. BRAGG:

Can the Second South Carolina Cavalry be spared for defense of South Carolina?

R. E. LEE.

WILMINGTON, February 8, 1865.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

Our signal officer opposite Fort Fisher reports the enemy landing troops there yesterday from transports. He estimates 1,200 after 12 o'clock, when his first observation was made.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, February 8, 1865.

Major-General HOKE,
Sugar Loaf:

Only communication with Georgia now is by Columbia, Abbeville, and thence across country to Athens. Do you think it advisable to grant furloughs to Georgia soldiers under the circumstances? Your advice will control, as you know temper of troops.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, February 8, 1865.

Colonel ANDERSON:

I do not think it advisable to grant furloughs to visit Georgia at present. I will withhold them until we hear further.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Sugar Loaf:

GENERAL: I have the honor to communicate for your guidance the following instructions from the commanding general: First. The utmost vigilance must be observed in the front on both sides of the river to secure timely notice of any movement. Our pickets should be always in sight of the enemy, and a close and unremitting observation should be kept up. Second. The arrival or departure of troops or their transfer from one point to another should be promptly reported. Third. Communication with the enemy by our people should be prevented as far as possible, and all parties, especially negroes, going or returning to or from their lines should be arrested. Fourth. All supplies in the country subject to the enemy's incursions should be promptly removed to our lines. Fifth. Reconnoitering and working parties of the enemy should be captured. Sixth. An attempt by the gun-boats to pass Fort Anderson must be resisted by all means in our power, but should they succeed we must be prepared to move also. A mere passage of a few gun-boats,

however, without troops will not render necessary any change of position. They may be much harassed, if not disabled, by judicious use of long-range light guns from the banks of the river, and will be delayed seriously at the obstructions. Special orders will be given for any move in this emergency. Seventh. A point for communication across the river has been selected, and a steam ferry with flats is being prepared to run from the mouth of Town Creek on the west to the Old State Salt Landing on the east. By this route re-enforcements can be sent to and from both detachments of the command until the fort is passed. Thus any land attack can be met. Arrangements should be made in advance and speedily for the use of this ferry, and an understanding be had as to the troops to move, &c. Except in an extreme case, involving the safety of the command, the present positions will not be abandoned.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 8, 1865.*

Brigadier-General HAGOOD,
Fort Anderson:

General Hoke will receive to-day special instructions and will communicate.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 8, 1865—5.30 p. m.*

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The following is the report of the signal operator to-day:

Five transports left this morning going north. Six large steam transports lying outside near Battery Holland all day. Think they are landing troops. About 500 cavalry seen drilling near Camp Wyatt.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 8, 1865—9 p. m.*

Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy are reported by my advance guard to be landing in force between Fort Anderson and themselves. I have sent a staff officer to investigate the report and with instructions to the guard. Will report more fully as soon as I can.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 8, 1865—9.45 p. m.*

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am inclined to think the alarm given by the advanced guard unfounded. Will report fully in a short time.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 8, 1865—12 midnight.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

The report of the Yankees landing has proved without foundation.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 8, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON:

Commanding officer Fort Branch reports enemy re-enforcing at Plymouth with eight gun-boats and 4,000 men. Scout saw the gun-boats. Destination reported Fort Branch and Edwards Ferry. This probably the force I had driven from Colerain. All scouts report movement on foot at New Berne. Re-enforcements have not yet arrived there, but arrangements must be made for the defense of the district.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 8, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Commanding Post, Macon, Ga.:

Direct Col. A. P. Mason on his arrival at Macon to stop the books and records of Army of Tennessee at that point. Colonel Mason left here yesterday morning.

By command of General Beauregard:

HENRY BRYAN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[FEBRUARY 9, 1865.—For General Orders, No. 1, headquarters Confederate Army, announcing General Robert E. Lee as assuming command of the military forces of the Confederate States, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1226.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c., Augusta:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs me to embody in a letter of instructions his views in relation to the operations of the troops in and about Augusta. First. The infantry troops, as they shall arrive, will take up position along the line of Big Horse Creek. When it shall be ascertained that the enemy has no real design on Augusta, Cheatham's corps will move on Columbia, unless in meanwhile otherwise ordered. Stewart's corps will also follow Cheatham, if his presence should not be required here. Second. The artillery of Lee's corps will, on its arrival, move toward Columbia to effect a junction with its command. The other battalions of artillery will move with their respective commands. Palmer's battalion will report to Major-General Hill for orders on its arrival. Third. Ferguson's brigade will at once march to this place and cross the Savannah and aid, in connection with Crews and Hagan, in covering Augusta. Iverson will concentrate on Brier Creek, keeping his scouts and pickets well to the front. Fourth. The forces

of Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith will move to Augusta, and if his troops (Georgia militia) will cross the Savannah he will also take up position on the line of the Big Horse Creek. Fifth. Crews' brigade will be withdrawn to Upper Three Mile Run and, should he be pressed, will fall back to Hollow Creek, and, should it become necessary, will retire on the infantry on Big Horse Creek. He will keep constantly his left in communication with Wheeler's right. Sixth. It is not the design of General Beauregard that any general battle should be delivered here. Should it become evident after reconnaissances that the enemy is in superior force and contemplates an attack on the city, the troops will retire westwardly, with a view of covering Camak and the Mayfield and Washington Branch roads. Seventh. All military stores not necessary to be kept in depot for the immediate use of the troops should be sent to convenient and safe depots west of Augusta. Eighth. When it becomes evident that the enemy is in force and designs an attack on the city all cotton, tobacco, and other stores likely to prove useful to the enemy and to fall into their hands will be destroyed. Ninth. You will in time withdraw the naval detail at the Shell Bluff Battery. Tenth. When the troops shall have passed through Augusta Major-General Hill will proceed to the headquarters of General Beauregard for assignment to some appropriate command of the forces in the field.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 9, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Have telegraphed General Mackall to stop books and records of Army of Tennessee at Macon, but fear your dispatch came too late.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 9, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. A. P. STEWART,
Augusta, Ga.:

Lieut. Malcolm Morse telegraphs to Captain Gale from Meridian to-day as follows:

Arrived here yesterday with eighteen couriers, in accordance with orders sent me through Major Lauderdale. Being without wagons and money, I will wait for orders at Demopolis, there being no forage here.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 9, 1865.

General Ferguson is directed by General Beauregard to proceed without delay to Augusta, Ga., and report with his brigade to the district commander.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 9, 1865—8.30 p. m.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston:

Wheeler reports a skirmish with the enemy at Johnson's Station, and that infantry and cavalry are in his front. He is at Guignard's, or Davis' Bridge. Their infantry skirmished with us slightly to-day at Holman's and Binnaker's Bridges. With that exception all quiet along the line. Prisoners report infantry and artillery (Twentieth Corps) on the Holman and Duncan's Bridge road. The Fifteenth Corps near Branchville; am making every effort through scouts and citizens to ascertain their intentions.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 9, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

Generals HARDEE and McLAWS:

The enemy has effected a crossing of the river between Binnaker's and Cannon's Bridges; in what number not stated. I will concentrate the forces at those fords and fight them in the swamp.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 9, 1865.

Colonel JOHNSON,
Commanding, Binnaker's:

COLONEL: I have ordered a brigade from Palmer's to re-enforce you to-night. Ascertain as soon as possible if the enemy are in force and advise me. Dislodge him if possible to do so. This effort must be made quickly to be successful.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CLAYTON'S DIVISION,
Ten Miles of Orangeburg, February 9, 1865—12.30 m.

General STEVENSON,
Orangeburg:

GENERAL: Your dispatch ordering to ascertain the enemy's force and dislodge him by the assistance of Palmer's brigade, met the troops of this division, under command of Colonel Johnson, six miles from the bridge which they were defending on the direct road to Orangeburg and the troops in confusion. Colonel Johnson is intoxicated. At the request of the different regimental commanders, I assume command of the troops until further orders from you. I shall continue moving slowly toward Orangeburg, for the following reasons: The enemy has crossed in considerable force, and since dark has driven back the skirmishers, and the command was ordered on the retreat with some confusion and haste. The enemy is still pursuing and in some force have gone above, taking the left hand near the river. Also Generals Deas and Palmer have been notified of the retreat and will govern them-

selves and regulate their movements accordingly. Captain Whitehead, assistant adjutant-general, has not been seen on the retreat, and Major Hull, of Sixty-sixth Georgia, was killed.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

J. C. GORDON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

GUIGNARD'S BRIDGE, S. C., *February 9, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,

Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: I inclose copies of a number of orders issued to my command for the purpose of informing you what orders are issued to it. I now have positive proofs that the many and grave charges made against my command are basely false. I also have certificates from most of the citizens in neighborhoods where my command has been for some time past, saying they have no complaints whatever to make against my troops, and that no troops, not even those raised in their own neighborhood, ever treated them so well. I mention these things to show you how basely my command has been calumniated. I regret to say that my superior officers, with their staff officers, instead of defending me, have joined in the denunciations against my command, and thus enable the true culprits to escape detection. Notwithstanding all this trouble, the thing must work out right in the end. I have learned to wait patiently for things thus to work out.

With the highest regards, your obedient servant and friend,

J. WHEELER.

GUIGNARD'S BRIDGE, S. C., *February 9, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,

Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: A few days since I forwarded to the War Department recommendations from the majority of the superior officers of my command, including all the division and brigade commanders, that my system of cavalry tactics be adopted by the Department. I could doubtless have obtained the recommendation of every officer in the command, but I did not desire to ask them. You will recollect that General Johnston ordered it to be used in the Army of Tennessee, and it is now used by all the cavalry of this department. My object in asking the Department to adopt it is, that I see that some system is to be adopted by it, and it would derange our system very much if any other system were adopted. Besides, the publishers inform me they could sell it at half the price if adopted by the War Department, which is a great object to my officers and men.

With highest regards, your obedient servant and friend,

J. WHEELER.

ORANGEBURG, S. C., *February 9, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER,

Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I am here with instructions from General Hardee for you, and hoping to meet a staff officer from you to-night. Understanding from General Stevenson that you moved with most of your force on yesterday toward Augusta, I write by courier. General Hardee's

instructions are that you send a force of 1,000 men to report to General McLaws at Branchville, to cover a retrograde movement of his force, if driven back from the Edisto. He also desires that you have a similar force in such position as to cover a retrograde movement (should it become necessary) of Lee's corps, Major-General Stevenson commanding. General Stevenson's headquarters are at Orangeburg for the present. This force must be in addition to Colonel Cook's regiment, which has been sent to Walterborough. Only one regiment (Fifth Tennessee), exclusive of Colonel Cook's, has yet reported at Branchville. General Stevenson understands that your movement toward Augusta is to meet a movement of the enemy on that place. These instructions of General Hardee were given before being apprised of any such movement. General Hardee desires you to be in constant communication with Major-General Stevenson through his nearest brigade commander, who has a line of couriers established to Orangeburg. General Hardee desires that you send a regiment to report to Major-General Stevenson for courier and other special service. Please dispatch the general the present position of your command. The enemy are in front of the Edisto line from New Bridge to Duncan's Bridge, their main force being on the railroad. No efforts yet made to cross. Scouts report them burning the railroad.

Very respectfully,

W. D. PICKETT,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Inspector-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., February 9, 1865—6 p. m.

Major-General WHEELER, *Commanding, &c.* :

GENERAL: Hagan's brigade was badly stampeded at White Pond, and ran off causelessly. It is scattered in every direction, many even coming to Augusta. It seems to me that a concentration of your cavalry upon Kilpatrick would crush him. I have sent an order to Crews to unite with Hagan, and probably something will then be done, as he seems to have a better command. I hope that you will keep us constantly apprised of movements. Is there any infantry moving upon Augusta? I have had no report from Hagan whatever.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Near Orangeburg, February 9, 1865.

General WHEELER, *Commanding Cavalry* :

GENERAL: Your dispatch of yesterday received, and telegram to General Hardee dispatched. I have established a line of couriers from my right flank to this the nearest point by telegraph with General Hardee, and will take pleasure in forwarding any dispatches by mail or telegraph which you may wish to forward. Please communicate with me fully with regard to the movements of the enemy, and of yours so far as they may affect me. Do me the kindness to furnish General Deas with such couriers as may be necessary to connect his two stations—Holman's and Duncan's Bridges.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Holman's Bridge, February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: The enemy's scouts have appeared at this bridge and the bridge below. The bridges being destroyed I have no other information to give.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

Z. C. DEAS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
February 9, 1865.

General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Colonel Johnson, at Binnaker's Bridge, reports to me that the enemy had forced the passage of the bridge, and at one hour after dark were about one mile and a half this side of the bridge. I have, in consequence, commenced to withdraw my command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. C. DEAS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Holman's Bridge, February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward to you a dispatch just received from Orangeburg. Please send by courier a receipt for it. I will move my headquarters near to Duncan's Bridge after daylight. I hope you will keep me advised of the movements of the enemy, if you are not too far away. I will open communication with some of your officers nearer to me if I can.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. C. DEAS,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 9, 1865.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond:

The communication of His Excellency Governor Vance, of North Carolina, covering a resolution from the House of Commons of that State, on the subject of the treatment of slaves, referred by you, was received about the time of the commencement of active operations here. The subject was immediately referred to the responsible commanders for reports, the last of which have been but recently received. All the papers and reports are submitted for your information. It will be perceived that there has been much suffering among this class of employes

in this department. This has been owing in part to mismanagement and want of attention, but to a great extent it has been unavoidable from the nature of work, the means available, and the want of regulations in regard to supplies.

First. The work to be done, which has to a great extent been shared by our white soldiers during the war, was of such a character as necessarily to subject the laborers to much exposure, even if comfortably clothed. The revetment of works at the mouth of Cape Fear River being mostly of sod and very heavy, and the sod to be dug from the marsh, made it necessary for many of the negroes to work a good deal in the water, and so in rafting timber and lumber, and water transportation.

Second. From the insufficient quantity of food, soldiers' rations, one-quarter of a pound of meat and three-quarters of a pound of meal, is altogether insufficient for a laboring man employed all day in heavy work.

Third. From want of comfortable clothing. Most of the negroes were sent by their owners very badly clad, and little was done by those in charge of the slaves to remedy this evil. No provision was made by the War Department for clothing enrolled negroes until the publication of General Orders, No. 86, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, December 5, 1864. The act of February 17, 1864, General Orders, No. 82, March 11, 1864, paragraph I, provides that negroes shall receive rations, clothing, and compensation at the rate of \$11 per month, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of War may establish. Paragraph IV adopts the regulations of General Orders, No. 138, October 24, 1863. The last order in paragraph VII fixes the ration, compensation, &c., but makes no provision for clothing, and no regulation on this point was adopted until December 5, 1864.

Fourth. They have suffered for want of proper hospital accommodations, and at Fort Fisher for want of proper quarters and fuel. The evils pointed out have been remedied as far as practicable. Sufficient hospital accommodations are being prepared and proper medical attendance secured, and every effort will be made to provide for the comfort of the enrolled slaves consistently with the limited means in hand.

Many small abuses become known to owners and others which it is impossible for a commander to learn except through them. If they would make their complaints circumstantially, prompt investigation would be ordered and every remedy applied. Regular inspections, reports, and returns will be made of this laboring force in future, and they will be cared for as other troops.

Very respectfully, sir,

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 9, 1865.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE, *Richmond:*

Start to-morrow. Wait for me.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 9, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Petersburg:*

I will start to-morrow.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

WILMINGTON, *February 9, 1865.*

The enemy landed more troops at Fisher yesterday, including cavalry. Our force of this arm is very small.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

WILMINGTON, *February 9, 1865.*

You will see by my dispatch of this morning that more cavalry is required here.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SUGAR LOAF, *February 9, 1865.*

I will be there. Everything quiet at present.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

Colonel ANDERSON:

FORT ANDERSON, *February 9, 1865.*

Does the commanding general prefer that I should communicate promptly, for what they are worth, reports received in such instances as that last night, or wait until I have proved their correctness before dispatching him on the subject?

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Let me hear immediately all reports, but distinguish between those known to be true and mere rumors.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 9, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Goldsborough:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of 8th instant relative to movements of the enemy. Until information is received of some increase of their forces, it is not deemed prudent by the commanding general to remove troops from here, but all will be held ready to aid you. Our resources are small and must be cautiously used. General Bragg will be absent from the department for a few days, and leaves instructions with Major-General Hoke, who succeeds to the temporary command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 9, 1865.*

Brigadier-General BAKER,
Goldsborough:

Enemy have landed troops for two days past at Fort Fisher. The movement in your front may be a demonstration. Keep advised.
BRAXTON BRAGG.

[FEBRUARY 10, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1070.]

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 10, 1865.*

Maj. R. J. MOSES,
Commissary State of Georgia, Planters' Hotel:

MAJOR: Your letter received. The road to Washington has been ordered to be put in repair at once. I will see at once to the reception of the tithes. Be good enough to let me know where I can reach you by telegraph on leaving the city.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 10, 1865.

Mr. W. M. HIGHT:

SIR: I am instructed by General Beauregard to say that you are authorized to call upon the citizens adjacent to the Washington Branch, Georgia Railroad, for such lumber, wagons, and labor as they are willing to contribute for the repairs of that road, and for all of which the Government will pay a just compensation. Capt. L. P. Grant, engineer, has been requested to furnish you iron, spikes, &c., sufficient to place the road before mentioned in thorough repair. Inclosed is an order* directing the assistant commissary of subsistence at Barnett's Station and Washington to issue, upon your requisition, rations for 200 negro laborers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

General Hardee is very anxious for you to come here, if only for one day, as you did in Savannah. It would be a great relief to him. He desires me so to inform you.

A. R. CHISOLM,
Aide-de-Camp.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

I have just arrived here. Will join you soon as practicable. Meanwhile I advise concentration from the Combahee to the Edisto line.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

I feel sure your presence here, if possible, would do great service at this juncture.

THOMAS JORDAN.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 10, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,

Charleston, S. C.:

I will be in Charleston soon as practicable. Inform Chisolm to that effect.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, *February 10, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

When the necessity arises for your retirement bring with you that portion of Stevenson's command now reporting to you.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 10, 1865.*

General MCLAWS:

Conner's brigade is not to be withdrawn from its present position.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

FLAG-SHIP CHARLESTON,

Charleston, February 10, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,

Comdg. 2d and 3d Sub. Dist. of South Carolina, Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of this date. In reply I have to inform you that the marine guard of this squadron, under Lieut. A. S. Berry, C. S. Marine Corps, was ordered to report to Captain Tatnall, C. S. Marine Corps, the senior officer on this station, who had been directed by Flag-Officer Ingraham to report to you. In a conversation with Lieutenant-General Hardee this morning I mentioned this arrangement, with which he expressed himself satisfied. I have detailed the marine guard as the least injurious to the organization of the ships, but should it become imperatively necessary I will endeavor

to furnish you with more men, even if by so doing I further disorganize the ships. The officer in charge of the marines of the squadron was directed to march to James Island in the event of Captain Tatnall having left with his command.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag-Officer, Commanding, Afloat.

NOTE.—I am now going on board ship, and if the guard have not left I will notify you where they will be to receive transportation.

J. R. T.

BATTERY No. 2, *February 10, 1865—2.05 p. m.*

General TALIAFERRO:

In reply to your specific inquiry I sent you Major Manigault's report. I now send you Major Warley's from Secessionville:

Transport loaded with troops came from the south and west into Cole's Island Inlet, 1 monitor in Stono, 2 gun-boats, 1 mortar-boat, and 3 transports into Schooner Creek, near Dixon's Island Battery. Enemy's lines extend from lower Legare house to Grimball's Causeway. About five regiments have landed on this island, also two gun-boats in Stono River.

F. F. WARLEY,
Major, Commanding.

This is the full information I have.

S. ELLIOTT,
Brigadier-General.

BATTERY No. 2, *February 10, 1865—6.35 p. m.*

General HARDEE:

The enemy have driven in my picket-line, who have fallen back to the line rifle-pits. Enemy slowly advancing. Major Manigault reported killed. Only 430 re-enforcements have arrived.

S. ELLIOTT,
Brigadier-General.

(Same to General Taliaferro.)

BATTERY No. 2, *February 10, 1865.*

General TALIAFERRO:

I mean the rifle-pits 400 yards in front of the main line. Another skirmish line has been sent forward under Major White, with orders to meet the enemy and check him. This line has not yet found the enemy. Major Warley reports the enemy who drove us back to-day as four regiments 2,000 strong, and three regiments still around Legare's lower house. No change in fleet.

S. ELLIOTT,
Brigadier-General.

CITY, *February 10, 1865—12 m.*

Colonel RHETT, *Battery Bee:*

Order Young's dismounted men to report to Lieutenant Elliott, James Island, at once. A steamer will be at Mount Pleasant for them.

P. N. PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY, *February 10, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Colonel RHETT,
Battery Bee:

Send Captain Le Gardeur to James Island. Send to McCormick's Landing at once and stop the steamer for him if it is still there.

TALIAFERRO,
General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—3.30 a. m.*

Governor MAGRATH:

The enemy have effected a lodgment at Binnaker's, which will probably force us to retire from that line.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—6 a. m.*

General McLAWS:

I am now satisfied that they are advancing in force from the river. I will guard the North Edisto and keep you advised.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—6 a. m.*

General McLAWS:

If I have to abandon the South Edisto, now probable, I will cross Palmer at Rowe's Bridge, and hold the North Branch as long as possible.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

(Same to General Hardee.)

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—8.15 a. m.*

General HARDEE:

We have been unable to dislodge the enemy at Binnaker's, and the troops are retiring slowly before them. I will hold the North Edisto as long as possible.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

(Same to Governor Magrath and General McLaws.)

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

The enemy has driven the troops from Binnaker's and they are retiring on this point. Palmer had gone to their assistance and may check them. Have ordered Rowe's Bridge to be burned whenever Palmer passes it.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—10 a. m.*

General HARDEE, *Charleston*:

I am withdrawing to the line of the North Edisto. I think the enemy will endeavor to strike the Columbia road to-day or to-morrow. I have no cavalry to cover my troops; not now sufficient number of scouts.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—10.45 a. m.*

General McLAWS:

It is important that Cumming's brigade should join me at once; send it immediately by train held in reserve at Branchville for it. One division being detached, I need it to hold the North Edisto. I think the enemy will try to strike the Columbia road to-day. Send me part of the Tennessee cavalry regiment now at Branchville. I have no cavalry and the roads in my front and flanks are open.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

Send some cavalry to guard the North Edisto. From Rowe's Bridge to its mouth it is uncovered.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

I have a courier-line to Branchville. Inform me by letter of your plans as to holding Branchville, that I may co-operate. I shall hold the North Edisto as long as possible or until you retire.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

One train is in reserve to cross my command over the Congaree if I desire it. I control none other. I was not advised that you need supplies. Upon inquiring I learn that meal was sent to you this morning.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 10, 1865—10.30 p. m.*

Major-General STEVENSON:

Direct Wheeler to bring over the Edisto a large body of cavalry—say 2,000—to protect your movements, and McLaws to hold on to the North Edisto as long as possible. I want the part of your command now with McLaws to retire with him toward Four Hole Swamp. I will send them to you by rail.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of the division commanded by Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws, C. S. Army, for February 10, 1865. (a)

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.				Horses.	Field.
Hardy's brigade.....	52	841	812	1,190	2,097	.....	.....
Harrison's brigade.....	56	702	685	1,025	1,782	.....	.....
Fiser's brigade.....	53	809	803	1,041	2,592	.....	.....
Reserve brigade.....						.....	.....
Conner's brigade.....						.....	.....
Artillery.....	11	318	313	377	458	152	12
Cavalry.....						.....	.....
Grand total.....	172	2,670	2,613	3,633	6,929	152	12

^a The Third and Fifteenth South Carolina Regiments and Third Battalion South Carolina Volunteers, of Conner's brigade, effective total 450, report to General McLaws temporarily; also Brooks' battery, 105 effective. The above are not included in the aggregate of this return.

Organization of the division commanded by Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws, C. S. Army, February 10, 1865.

Hardy's Brigade.

Col. WASHINGTON M. HARDY.

7th North Carolina Reserves.
10th North Carolina Battalion.
50th North Carolina Regiment.

Harrison's Brigade.

Col. GEORGE P. HARRISON, Jr.

5th Georgia Regiment.
32d Georgia Regiment.
47th Georgia Regiment.
1st South Carolina Cavalry.

Fiser's Brigade.

Col. JOHN C. FISER.

1st Georgia Regulars.
27th Georgia Battalion.
2d Battalion Georgia Reserves.
5th Georgia Reserves.
6th Georgia Reserves.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 10, 1865—4.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General PALMER:

Should you find that the troops on the Binnaker's road have been driven back, and that the enemy cannot be held at Snake or Cooper's Swamp, you will cross the North Edisto at Rowe's Bridge, and hold it to cross troops from Branchville. There is a line of couriers from Branchville to this place. In case the enemy cannot be driven back, and it should be necessary to fall back on this place, do so slowly, checking the enemy as long as possible. Keep your men well in hand; communicate with me often and freely. If you are compelled to retire hold Cooper's Swamp with sufficient force, and move the remainder of

your forces to opposite Rowe's Bridge, at the forks of the roads leading from that point to the Binnaker's Bridge road with that from Orangeburg. Ascertain as soon as possible thereafter the condition of affairs on the road from Binnaker's Bridge, and if necessary cross the North Edisto at Rowe's Bridge. The river is well guarded here, and your flank would then be well protected.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 10, 1865.

Major-General PALMER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I regret that you did not hold the forks of the road as I desired. I intend to hold the North Edisto as long as possible, and you will please take position at Rowe's Bridge with that view. Watch closely the points above and below it, and concentrate a sufficient force to check an attempt to cross until I can re-enforce you or prepare for a further move. I have increased the couriers on your line. Communicate with General McLaws, to co-operate with him in the defense of the river.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CANNON'S BRIDGE,
February 10, 1865—2.20 p. m.

Major-General CLAYTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have received verbal notice from Colonel Johnson, commanding at Binnaker's, that the enemy have crossed in force about one mile below him, and that he was falling back slowly. Just afterward I received orders from General Stevenson to send a brigade to Johnson. I shall fall back at least as far as Rowe's Bridge with the remaining force.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. B. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 10, 1865—3 p. m.*

Major-General CHEATHAM,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The preservation of the factory at Graniteville is of great importance to the Confederacy as well as to the security of your line. Do you think it prudent to send 500 men so far out? If the operator at Aiken has brought off his instruments, you might put up a station at Big Horse Creek.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 10, 1865—4 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Your dispatches, 7.40 p. m. 9th, and 10.05 p. m. 9th, both came together this moment. General Allen has lost Aiken. Cheatham is on Big Horse Creek. Why do your couriers travel so slow?

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Stevenson to say that we have been obliged to abandon the South Edisto, and are now holding the North Edisto. General Deas has been ordered to retire in the direction of Columbia, as far as to where that road crosses the North Edisto. You will order half the cavalry that is to report to General S. to report to General Deas at the point above mentioned, to cover his front and protect his right flank. The other half to report at these headquarters, coming by the nearest practicable route.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 10, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

General ALLEN:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 8.30 a. m. has just reached me. There must be some great negligence on the courier-line. It is important that we should know certainly whether infantry is with the Yankee column, and in what strength. General Cheatham with infantry is on Big Horse Creek. Important movements should be reported promptly to him.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

P. S.—Could you not bring Crews' men to your assistance and beat Kilpatrick?

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 10, 1865.*

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have the honor respectfully to report that in obedience to your instructions, received Mobile, 15th of January, 1865, to inspect "all cavalry commands detached from General Hood's army in Georgia, especially Iverson's brigade, and all cavalry in Alabama," I repaired at once to Georgia, as the case of Capt. G. S. Cecil, acting commissary of subsistence, Iverson's brigade, seemed to ask for prompt attention. On my arrival I found that all the cavalry detached from General Hood's army had passed from Georgia into South Carolina except

Brig. Gen. Alfred Iverson's division and Brigadier-General Ferguson's brigade. Iverson's proper brigade is not included in his division command, but is commanded by Colonel Crews and incorporated in Brigadier-General Allen's division, now in South Carolina. Captain Cecil's case has been investigated and the papers returned to you through Col. E. J. Harvie, assistant adjutant and inspector general, Army of Tennessee. The troops which were inspected are the Third, Fourth, Sixth, Ninth Kentucky Regiments, mounted infantry of Brig. Gen. Jos. H. Lewis' brigade, and the Fifty-third Alabama Regiment, Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion, Eleventh Georgia Regiment, and the Roswell (Georgia) Battalion, of Col. M. W. Hannon's brigade, all of Iverson's division. The rosters of these regiments are forwarded herewith, as also a list of the officers of the general staff belonging to them. Returns of the two brigades accompany this letter. The absent commissioned officers are accounted for on the rosters. The rosters of the Kentucky brigade are imperfect because the regimental records were inaccessible. A circular from General Wheeler, copy inclosed, directing that all men absent without leave more than seven days be dropped from the rolls, has caused some misunderstanding. Should not such men be accounted for on the returns as deserted, and only officers as "dropped" who may have been absent without leave or are incompetent, deserters being accounted for on the muster-rolls also? It is remarked that the muster-rolls in Hannon's brigade are not correctly made out, and that the inspecting officer failed to affix his signature or fill out the remarks. The blank forms of returns in this division are not all uniform with those of other troops. It is respectfully suggested that an order issue from your office prescribing the form of all service blanks, and exacting compliance with notes printed upon them all; the numbering of the columns is highly useful, and the notes might indicate in detail the information required in each column. The headings, "extra duty," and "absent detached service," are frequently misused. Regimental commanders and assistant adjutants-general seem not to know the manner of returning officers and men on detached duty at general headquarters. General Iverson fails to report all officers and men permanently on detached duty at his headquarters. The most notable defect in this division is the want of proper organization. There are but few staff officers at the general headquarters, and none but adjutants and some surgeons with regiments.

General Iverson is detached from his own brigade, now Crews', to command these two brigades in another division, and has no general staff officers except Captain Byrd, assistant commissary of subsistence, recently assigned by order of Lieutenant-General Hardee. Colonel Hannon's brigade was organized last April, but his application for staff officers was not approved, on the ground that the brigade was not a permanent organization. The only officer of the general staff serving with him is Captain Dickinson, assistant quartermaster, Fifty-third Alabama. Besides rendering more difficult the enforcement of discipline, the want of staff officers is one cause of the discontent of the people of Georgia, who have been much annoyed with irregular receipts given by line officers ignorant of their duty. In this connection it is proper to remark that the agent allowed by act of Congress (General Order 54, 1864), to audit claims in each Congressional district has not appeared in Burke and Screven Counties, Ga., traversed by our cavalry in November and December, 1864. This division has never been officially organized in orders, nor has it ever been inspected, either as a division or by brigades; no inspection reports of any kind have

been made since September. The Kentucky troops were regularly inspected when infantry, but have been neglected since mounted. It is, therefore, not remarkable that all departments of the staff are irregularly administered in some particulars. Descriptive lists of horses are not found in Lewis' brigade, and but imperfect ones in Hannon's. Subsistence is issued to the commissary-sergeants, there being no regimental commissaries or quartermasters, upon the adjutants' verbal statements, through the sergeant, of the number of men and officers, and provision returns and receipts are only signed two or three times a month on averaged statements, instead of morning reports. It is impossible to find the number of private animals foraged, as forage is issued on requisition for all stock as "public animals," and only signed once a month on averaged statements. The transportation, both wagons and teams, of Lewis' brigade, being nearly new, is in excellent condition. Hannon's wagons are in fair order, but the teams seem weak, and are much jaded by incessant labor; they could be better groomed than they are. No captured property, either horses, equipments, or arms, are ever turned over to the officers of the staff. Great embarrassment is occasioned in the quartermaster and commissary departments by the want of ready funds. Cavalry in motion must subsist on the country they occupy, and should have cash or bonded officers numerous enough to accompany detached parties. The people of Georgia can obtain much more for their produce when delivered to certain agents of the commissary department (Major Cranston, at Augusta, for instance) than when it is impressed by cavalry officers at schedule prices, hence arises much discontent.

In the latter part of January commissaries in the field were paying schedule prices, when Major Cranston was authorized to pay \$14 or \$15 per bushel for corn. The efficiency of the division is much impaired by details (see absent, detached service, most of such absentees being able-bodied men, with the best horses and arms) acting as guards, escorts, couriers, &c. General Iverson has two lieutenants and sixty-two men at his headquarters as provost guards and couriers. I would recommend a judicious system of furloughing for this as well as all other commands, and not to be interrupted in even ordinarily active movements. With an aggregate of 1,473, Hannon's brigade has 38 absent with leave, while Lewis' brigade, with 1,066, has 192. The general orders from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office are seldom promulgated. General Orders, No. 75, 1864, announcing average price of rations sold to officers, has not been received. Captain Byrd, assistant commissary of subsistence, sells pork at 75 cents per pound, fresh beef 53 cents net, and corn at \$2.25 per bushel. The orders regarding the dropping of absent and incompetent officers, and the retirement of disabled officers and men, were not found at division headquarters, nor well understood there or in Hannon's brigade. Lists of absent officers and men are not sent to the Bureau of Conscription from this division. Attention is invited to the evident neglect of orders and discipline by the frequent granting of permission to men to ride their horses on other than public business. In the matter of organization, General Beauregard's order, dated December 29, 1864, promising to merge those brigades with the largest number of absentees into those with the least, will, if executed, be very beneficial in reducing the number of commands and the necessity for more staff officers, and cause little inconvenience, as the number of brigadier-generals exceeds but slightly the number of divisions said to be in the cavalry corps. Attention is attracted to the large proportion of mules in the cavalry; fully one-

quarter of this division is mounted on them. Permit me strongly to recommend mounting all cavalry on public horses, and the retention of these mules for transportation purposes.

It is believed that division and brigade commanders do not give sufficient personal attention to the individuals and material of their commands. Morning reports are made but three times a month. Books and records seem to be incomplete; soldiers do not appear to be charged on the muster and pay rolls with articles lost or injured. There are no recitations in army regulations. The health of the division is remarkably good. The brigade commanded by Brig. Gen. Jos. H. Lewis is composed of the Second, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Ninth Kentucky Regiments Infantry, which were mounted, both men and officers, by order of General Hood, on public animals, mostly horses, but many of them mules, which have been receipted for by the acting brigade quartermaster. The brigade lacks about 200 horses to complete its mounting. The men who need these horses are acting as infantry. The horse equipments are generally in good order, and were mostly issued from Government workshops; a detail of the men is making up the deficiency by constructing excellent saddles.

It is gratifying to report that there are but few absentees without leave from this brigade. General Lewis reports that he has never been able to effect the retirement of either officers or men for want of action at superior headquarters. The brigade train was so far distant that it was impossible to examine the responsibility of the officers of the staff. The brigade has a sufficiency of clothing, which is kept clean, and is well supplied with blankets. There is a marked deficiency of spurs. There are 396 serviceable and 51 unserviceable animals in the brigade. They are in ordinary plight and ordinarily well groomed. Currycombs and brushes are much needed.

The arms of the brigade are with few exceptions uniform in kind and caliber, and nearly all serviceable, but there is a deficiency of about one-twelfth. The condition of the arms is generally dirty. Accouterments are in good condition, but a deficiency of about one-sixth exists. Ammunition is well preserved, but not uniformly distributed. The military bearing of the brigade may be said to be soldierly, but their appearance, mounted and dismounted, is indifferent. Discipline is lax; men are inattentive on parade and also at drill, which is indifferently performed; officers and men need instruction in cavalry tactics. In the Second Kentucky Regiment there is a surplus of officers, but none are found to be elected since the promulgation of General Orders, No. 53. The Sixth Kentucky Regiment has eight companies, but originally numbered ten. The Ninth Kentucky has six companies, although it originally had ten. Two companies of Tennessee troops were transferred by General Bragg, at Murfreesborough, in December, 1862, under the order to aggregate troops into regiments from their own States, and two others were detached by order from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office to form a battalion under Major Desha in Western Virginia. Col. M. W. Hannon's command is composed of the Fifty-third Alabama Regiment, Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion, Eleventh Georgia Regiment, and the Roswell (Georgia) Battalion. It has never been permanently brigaded, but was organized by General Roddey, under the orders of General Wheeler, and originally comprised the Fifty-third Alabama Regiment, Moreland's regiment, Williams' battalion, and the Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion. No staff officers have been assigned to Colonel Hannon. As before mentioned, no inspection reports have been furnished. There were no blank forms found with

the command. The list of absentees have not been habitually forwarded to the Bureau of Conscription, because the general orders on this and other matters have not in many instances been promulgated to the command. This brigade has been constantly on duty for several months. Many horses have been broken down and sent to the recruiting camps at Montgomery and in the rear of the division. There are 664 serviceable and 122 unserviceable animals in the command; many of them need shoeing.

The brigade seems to perform picket and outpost duty with great zeal and success. The company books and records are not generally complete, and there are no evidences of accountability for ordnance stores on the part of regimental commanders, nor do the men appear to be charged on the muster and pay rolls with losses of public property. The officers appear to be intelligent, but not as efficient as greater industry would cause them to be. Throughout the brigade spurs are deficient. The Fifty-third Alabama has ten companies. They appear attentive on inspection, but their bearing will not be called soldierly. They dress negligently, although their clothing is sufficient and good. Personally the regiment is cleanly. The animals look worn, and are not very well groomed; many are puny, and only held to retain their owners in cavalry service. The proportion of mules is large. Arms are not clean enough, and there is a deficiency; the caliber and kind are not entirely uniform. Ammunition is generally well cared for. There is a deficiency of accouterments. Horse equipments are in ordinary good condition; more are needed. Currycombs are deficient. Discipline appears to be somewhat better in this than other parts of the brigade. The regiment drills moderately well. Company descriptive lists of animals are correctly kept. The Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion has three companies, was organized in February, 1864, and is chiefly composed of youths, who are healthy and robust, but lack a military air. They were inattentive at inspection, and do not appear to be under good discipline. There is not enough distinction between officers and men. Many men are unarmed, but expect to be supplied soon. Such arms as were inspected are of irregular calibers, indifferent in kind, and in bad order. Some are unserviceable. There is a great deficiency in the number of accouterments, especially of cap pouches. Horse equipments are in very bad condition; currycombs are much needed. Horses are not numerous or strong, mules being greatly in excess. The animals are not well groomed. The drill is indifferently executed. Spurs are needed. The Eleventh Georgia Regiment, originally the Thirtieth Georgia Battalion (seven companies), is reported to have been raised to a regiment of ten companies, by authority of the War Department, from such men as could be obtained in Northeast Georgia. Many deserters from other commands joined this regiment, and though some have been returned, others remain. Private Mitchell (properly of the Sixteenth Georgia, now a courier for Colonel Hannon) is one. The regiment was organized about October 25, 1864, near Athens, Ga., but when ordered from there to its present station many absented themselves. About ninety officers and men appeared on inspection. They are fine-looking youths, but do not present a military appearance. Discipline is lax; most of the captains are absent on detached service, and there is not enough distinction between officers and privates. The men are well clad and have a sufficiency of blankets, but are quite uncleanly. The regiment was at first armed with Cook's Enfield, which the men do not esteem, and say are easily broken. Many have been

lost and broken, but are not charged to the men. At present arms are deficient in number, not uniform in kind or caliber, some are broken, and nearly all of them dirty. Horse equipments are in bad order, and there is a deficiency of currycombs. The animals are mostly lean and puny, chiefly mules and but few well groomed. Many are only excuses to escape infantry service. Accouterments are deficient. Ammunition is not evenly distributed, and there is none for some calibers, as Spence's rifles, a Virginia musket 1814, &c. Descriptive lists of animals are correctly kept. The Roswell Battalion being all on picket duty could not be inspected. It is composed of two companies, and has no field or staff. Company A is composed of men who were operatives in the mills at Roswell, Ga., and organized into a battalion of 140 men, infantry, artillery, and cavalry, under the act for local defense.

When Roswell fell into the hands of the enemy Captain King, commanding battalion, was ordered to report to Brig. Gen. M. J. Wright, who reorganized the local battalion into a permanent company, ordered the pieces of artillery to be turned into the arsenal at Atlanta, and mounted the men. At the surrender of Atlanta Captain King was ordered to report to General Cobb, and by him to General Iverson, who assigned the company to Hannon's brigade. This company was reorganized by consent of Colonel Browne, chief of conscription, State of Georgia, at the request of General Cobb. The men at present in Company A have never belonged to companies in the field, but were all detailed by the Conscript Bureau. Such as were detailed from the field deserted. Muster-rolls of the reorganization were forwarded through General Cobb, and at the same time lists of the deserters were furnished to the Bureau of Conscription. Though mustered as mounted, many of the men have never been mounted. Arms are deficient in number and not uniform in kind in both Company A and Company B. Company B, commanded by Captain Zachry, was mustered into service 1st September, 1864, by Captain King, who received authority from General Cobb to add a company to his command. It is composed of youths between fifteen and eighteen years of age. It is said to be the desire of Company A to be attached to the Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion. I have no means of ascertaining why Company A should not be distributed among the regular troops and Company B attached to a regiment of Georgia State Reserves. The attention of the commanding officer of the District of Georgia has been invited to many of the above-mentioned deficiencies and to the cases of certain officers who should be retired or dropped. General Iverson's troops are actively engaged as scouts and on picket duty from Sister's Ferry, on the Savannah River, to the mouth of the Altamaha, the Fifth Kentucky Regiment Mounted Infantry, and the Roswell (Georgia) Battalion being so distant and scattered that they could not be reached. Ferguson's brigade being on the right of the Altamaha, near Hawkinsville, and engaged on a march which would consume two weeks, with a probability of being continued much longer, could not be inspected. It being impossible to obtain blank inspection reports in Georgia or Alabama, this report has been furnished without their aid. In view of the obstacles to inspecting the few troops at present in Georgia I have determined to return to Alabama. Letters will reach me at Mobile, in care of Maj. Gen. D. H. Maury.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. DEVEREUX,

Major and Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 14. } *Wilmington, February 10, 1865.*

I. The means of transportation in this department for operations in the field will be distributed as follows: Army headquarters, one 4-horse wagon; inspector-general and assistants, one 4-horse wagon; chief quartermaster and chief commissary and assistants, one 4-horse wagon; chief ordnance officer and assistants, one 4-horse wagon; chief engineer and assistants, one 4-horse wagon; medical director and assistants, one 4-horse wagon; division headquarters, two 4-horse wagons and one 6-horse wagon; brigade headquarters, one 4-horse wagon; military court, one 4-horse wagon. The transportation for division and brigade headquarters includes the personal staff, engineers, signal corps, and medical officers, and other officers of the general staff, except those hereinafter mentioned. Chief quartermaster and chief commissary of division, with assistants, one 4-horse wagon; regimental headquarters, including field and staff and company officers, one 4-horse wagon; division headquarters, for forage for animals, two 4-horse wagons; brigade headquarters, for forage for animals, three 4-horse wagons; pioneer party and provost guard of division, one 4-horse wagon; each regiment exceeding 500 men actually present, for cooking utensils, two 4-horse wagons; each regiment not exceeding 500 men, for cooking utensils, one 4-horse wagon; each division, for medical supplies, one 4-horse wagon; each brigade, for medical supplies, one 4-horse wagon; to every 375 men, for ordnance supplies in brigade train, one 4-horse wagon; to same in division train, one 4-horse wagon; headquarters, each artillery battalion, including quartermaster and surgeon, one 4-horse wagon; company officers, each artillery battalion, one 4-horse wagon; each artillery battalion, for medical supplies, one 2-horse wagon; every 500 men actually present, for cooking utensils, one 4-horse wagon; each battery of artillery, for forage and commissary supplies, one 2-horse wagon.

II. The general supply train and transportation for blacksmith's tools are not affected by this order.

III. The transportation will be the same for cavalry as for infantry, with the following exceptions: To every 200 horses in each brigade, for forage, one 4-horse wagon; each squadron, for shoeing tools, one pack-mule; each regiment for ammunition, one pack-mule.

IV. All wagons in excess of the foregoing allowance will be immediately turned over to the chief quartermaster, who is especially charged with the execution of this order.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 10, 1865.*

General S. COOPER, *Adjutant and Inspector General:*

In the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, there are 106 guns, now organized and equipped as mounted artillery. Of these, all but three batteries, twelve guns, are at this time serving in South Carolina. Each of these batteries consists of four guns, &c., but there are no general or field officers serving with them. I propose to inspect these several batteries early next week, wherever they may be, with a view to their organization, in accordance with your instructions. I deem it, however, of great importance that a brigadier-general be at once appointed to their command, and Lieutenant-General Har-

dee, commanding the department, concurring, I respectfully recommend for this position Col. A. J. Gonzales, for more than two years and a half chief of artillery of this department, and now the senior colonel of artillery.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,
J. C. PEMBERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Artillery, &c.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded approved.

Colonel Gonzales is chief of artillery in this department, and his long experience, his thorough and practical knowledge of artillery, and his great industry and zeal, fully entitle him to the position of brigadier-general of artillery.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted to Hon. Secretary of War.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from return of the Department of North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke, C. S. Army, commanding, for February 10, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
STAFF.						
General.....	6	1	1	7	13	
Second District.....	9	3	3	12	12	
Third District.....	4			4	11	
Total.....	19	4	4	23	36	
INFANTRY.						
Second District.....	163	2,229	2,318	2,622	5,309	
Third District.....	79	1,093	1,236	1,408	2,282	
Hoke's division.....	380	4,586	4,826	5,568	11,823	
Total.....	622	7,908	8,380	9,598	19,414	
HEAVY ARTILLERY.						
Second District.....	7	165	198	249	457	
Third District.....	17	189	310	354	461	
Total.....	24	354	508	603	918	
LIGHT ARTILLERY.						
Second District.....	18	527	561	624	806	20
Third District.....	20	532	571	612	732	25
Total.....	38	1,059	1,132	1,236	1,538	45
CAVALRY.						
Second District.....	29	455	488	538	695	
Third District.....	31	546	574	646	908	
Total.....	60	1,001	1,062	1,184	1,603	
Engineer troops.....	3	82	83	93	98	
Signal Corps.....	1	31	31	32	38	
Grand total.....	767	10,439	11,200	12,769	23,645	45

NOTE.—General Bragg is absent under orders.

Organization of troops in the Department of North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke, C. S. Army, commanding, February 10, 1865.

SECOND MILITARY DISTRICT.

Brig. Gen. LAWRENCE S. BAKER.

First Sub-District, Goldsborough, N. C.

Col. STEPHEN D. POOL.

- 3d Junior Reserves, Lieut. Col. William F. French.
 Senior Reserves (battalion), Maj. Boaz F. Hooks.
 Senior Reserves (one company), Capt. J. Dawson.
 Senior Reserves (one company), * Capt. John B. Griswold.
 10th North Carolina, Company F, Lieut. Richard W. Evans.
 Kelly's battery (detachment), Lieut. W. A. Evans.

Third Sub-District, Fort Branch.

Col. FRANK S. ARMISTEAD.

- 1st Junior Reserves, Lieut. Col. Charles W. Broadfoot.
 68th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Edward C. Yellowley.
 6th North Carolina Cavalry, Companies A and F, Capt. Barton R. Brown.
 Dickson's battery (Company E, 13th Battalion), Capt. Henry Dickson.
 Lee's (Alabama) battery, Capt. Edgar J. Lee.
 10th North Carolina Artillery (detachments Companies B, G, and H), Capt. Daniel Cogdell.

THIRD MILITARY DISTRICT.

Fort Anderson.

Col. JOHN J. HEDRICK.

- 40th North Carolina (six companies), Maj. William A. Holland.
 1st North Carolina Battalion, Company Coast Guard (unattached), North Carolina Troops, 36th North Carolina. } Lieut. Col. John D. Taylor, 36th North Carolina Regiment.

Light Artillery.

- 3d North Carolina Battalion, Company A, Capt. Andrew J. Ellis.
 3d North Carolina Battalion, Company B, Capt. William Badham, jr.
 3d North Carolina Battalion (detachments), Company C, Lieut. Alfred M. Darden.
 10th North Carolina (detachment), Company I, Capt. Thomas J. Southerland.
 Sampson Artillery, Capt. Abner A. Moseley.
 Staunton Hill (Virginia) Battery, Capt. Andrew B. Paris.

Second Sub-District, Kinston.

Col. JOHN N. WHITFORD.

- 67th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Rufus W. Wharton.
 Provost Guard, Capt. Allen Croom.
 8th Georgia Cavalry, Company G, Capt. Patrick Gray.
 6th North Carolina Cavalry, Maj. John J. Spann.
 13th North Carolina Battalion Light Artillery, Lieut. Col. Joseph B. Starr.

Fourth Sub-District, Weldon.

Col. WILLIAM F. MARTIN.

- 2d Junior Reserves, Col. John H. Anderson.
 1st Battalion Junior Reserves, Maj. David T. Millard.
 Strange's cavalry company, Capt. James W. Strange.
 10th North Carolina Artillery (detachment Company K), Lieut. John M. Blount.
 Webb's Light Battery (Company A, 13th Battalion), Capt. Lewis H. Webb.

Post of Wilmington.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON.

- 2d North Carolina Battalion (one company), Capt. Armand L. De Rosset.
 8th North Carolina Senior Reserves, Col. Almond A. McKoy.

Batteries at the obstructions.

Col. PETER C. GAILLARD.

- 13th North Carolina, Company D (detachment) McDougald's unattached company, Capt. W. J. McDougald.
 Naval detachments.

* Serving as provost guard.

ENGINEER TROOPS.

2d Engineers, Company A, Capt. JOHN C. WINDER.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Lieut. GEORGE C. BAIN.

CAVALRY.

2d South Carolina, Col. THOMAS J. LIPSCOMB.

HOKE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. ROBERT F. HOKE.

Clingman's Brigade.

8th North Carolina.
 31st North Carolina.
 51st North Carolina.
 61st North Carolina.

Colquitt's Brigade.

Col. CHARLES T. ZACHRY.

6th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Sampson W. Harris.
 19th Georgia, Col. James H. Neal.
 23d Georgia.
 27th Georgia.
 28th Georgia.

Hagood's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHNSON HAGOOD.

7th South Carolina Battalion, Lieut. Col. James H. Rion.
 11th South Carolina, Col. F. Hay Gantt.
 21st South Carolina, Col. Robert F. Graham.
 25th South Carolina, Col. Charles H. Simonton.
 27th South Carolina.

Kirkland's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM W. KIRKLAND.

17th North Carolina.
 42d North Carolina, Col. John E. Brown.
 50th North Carolina.
 66th North Carolina, Col. John H. Nethercutt.

[FEBRUARY 11, 1865.—For General Orders No. 2, from headquarters Armies of the Confederate States, granting pardon to deserters, &c., see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1229.]

[FEBRUARY 11, 1865.—For General Orders, No. 4, from headquarters Armies of the Confederate States, relating to men leaving their proper commands to join others, &c., see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1230.]

[FEBRUARY 11, 1865.—For Beauregard to Cooper (two dispatches), reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1047.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

Prisoners are still here and at Florence. They should be removed forthwith to a safe locality.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Richmond, Va.:

It is deemed best that prisoners at Florence be sent to Salisbury rather than prison near this place. General Bragg can probably furnish 500 men to guard them. Please give the necessary orders.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 11, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Your telegrams of the 9th and 10th received. The indications suggest Charleston as the objective point, and if you have supplies inside the works and General Beauregard has the hoped-for success in concentrating the army and in raising auxiliary forces in Georgia and South Carolina, the attempt of the enemy will, I hope, be reduced to operations on the sea front and be finally defeated.

Your wishes in regard to Generals Allen and Mercer have been noted and inquiry made for a good brigadier of Georgia who is unassigned. In the meantime you will please send on a nomination, as I may not find one. Where is Major-General Martin, of the cavalry? Why is he not in command of his division?

JEFF'N DAVIS.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Hampton having no troops yet to operate with I have placed him in command of this city and vicinity.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

By late movements of the enemy it is apparent that he intends to move upon Charleston, or to cut off your communications along the Northeastern Railroad. It is therefore advisable that you proceed to execute as soon as possible the movement agreed upon the 2d instant. Guard well your left flank and the crossings of the Santee.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Do you direct that the agreement made on the 2d instant be carried into effect immediately? Please answer at once.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Having much to attend to here and having given you my views relative to your future movements, I do not deem it necessary to visit Charleston now, especially being unwell to-day. I have ordered Wheeler to support Stevenson, and Cheatham to come here soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

My dispatch was written under supposition you still held lower Combahee line, and I advised shortening your coast line to the Edisto, thence to Branchville, in anticipation of other movement since recommended.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, *February 11, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Send here soon as practicable the siege-train guns and all available rifled guns on siege carriages, with their ammunition.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Should General Ripley be still in Charleston inquire for reason he has not joined his brigade in Augusta, and order him there forthwith, via Columbia. Should he disobey, send him in arrest.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Have you constructed a bridge across Santee above or below Northeastern Railroad bridge? Use ferry and rice boats along that river.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Order all ferry-boats along Santee destroyed or sunk along north bank of river, if not required for bridge above or below Northeastern Railroad bridge.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C. :

General Hood is not in Columbia.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[FEBRUARY 11, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1070.]

CITY, *February 11, 1865—10.15 p. m.*

Fleet-Officer TUCKER,
Ram Charleston :

Enemy attacked Simkins to-night. Barges reported between Morris Island and Fort Johnson. Please send out your iron-clads and drive them off.

HARDEE,
General.

CHARLESTON, *February 11, 1865—1.35 p. m.*

Col. W. D. PICKETT :

What is the condition of affairs on your front; and what news from Wheeler's cavalry ?

WM. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 11, 1865.

Lieut. F. M. HALL,
Engineer Corps, Adams' Run, S. C. :

Proceed to Parker's Ferry with your force to defend the crossing. Make no clearing except underbrush and no work heavier than rifle pits. Bring your force to city as soon as this is finished for discharge.

W. H. ECHOLS,
Major and Chief of Engineers.

CITY, *February 11, 1865—7 a. m.*

Colonel RHETT,
Battery Bee :

Send Le Gardeur's battery as soon as possible.

P. N. PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATTERY BEE, *February 11, 1865—4.15 p. m.*

Colonel RHETT,
Corner Vanderhorst and Thomas Streets, City :

General Pemberton will be at Fort Sumter at dark this p. m.

P. N. PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BIRDS' PLACE,

Two Miles from Royal's, February 11, 1865—12 m.

Captain HEYWARD:

CAPTAIN: We advanced this morning to A. Patterson's place, two miles and a half from Royal's. The enemy had been there yesterday, and, from information gathered from the negroes, found it advisable to give up the attempt to find their position in the day. They told me that they were in the Edisto Swamp, near the bridge, and in the woods in rear of Mr. Patterson's, on the left of the road going from this place. Their information I believe to be tolerably correct as to the position of the enemy last evening, and it may be so to-day, as on our return we saw tracks of men entering the road on our right (Edisto), following upon our tracks some distance, and then crossing the road to the left about one mile and a half from Royal's (where the Branchville road joins the Charleston road). We intend scouting it thoroughly to night if practicable.

JNO. H. SAMS,
Private.

ORANGEBURG, *February 11, 1865.*
(Received 10 a. m.)

General McLAWS:

The party reported to have crossed below retired upon the approach of re-enforcements. I am making every effort to ascertain the strength of the enemy in the forks. I will concentrate my forces and wait further developments.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 11, 1865.*
(Received 11.45 a. m.)

General McLAWS:

The enemy have not yet crossed. I think the main force is in front and above this place. I will withdraw Pettus from Rowe's Bridge to-night, replacing him by such cavalry as I can get, concentrating my force here, and await further developments. There seems to be no force at and below Rowe's.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, [*February*] 11, 1865.

Major-General McLAWS:

The enemy are skirmishing with my infantry in front of this place.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 11, 1865—11.50.*
(Received 12.45.)

Major-General McLAWS:

The enemy have driven my skirmishers across the river at this place, and the bridge is being destroyed.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
In the Field, February 11, 1865.

General MCLAWS,
Branchville, S. C.:

GENERAL: Having learned that the enemy had crossed the river at a point two miles above Rowe's Station, I sent a scout to ascertain the facts. Since I sent the scout Lieut. D. R. Wilson, who commands my pickets at Rowe's Pump, sends me a courier stating that it is false as to enemy having crossed river. There has no enemy crossed river as yet. I have a scout gone to said point at this time, who will report to me to-night. If anything should take place worthy of note I will dispatch you at once. Lieutenant Wilson dispatches me that some of our cavalry had crossed river on scout. On returning to river, the infantry pickets took fright and ran off, reporting the enemy when it was our own men. Lieutenant Wilson dispatches this as coming from General Palmer, who commands infantry force at said pump and bridge.

I am, your obedient servant,

W. W. LILLARD,
Captain, Commanding Fifth Regiment Tennessee Cavalry.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Major-General STEVENSON,
Orangeburg, S. C.:

It is desirable to hold the line referred to long as practicable. Wheeler says he left you 800 cavalry. Where are they?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Major-General STEVENSON,
Orangeburg, S. C.:

General Beauregard wishes you to communicate directly with him at this place. Your dispatches will then be laid before Governor Magrath.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, *February 11, 1865—9.40 p. m.*

General STEVENSON:

It is desirable to hold your present line as long as practicable, but at the same time you must use your discretion so as not to jeopardize your command.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 11, 1865.

General PETTUS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: March your troops at once to this place. Get in communication with the cavalry, and direct the commander to occupy the position near Rowe's Bridge.

By command of Maj. Gen. C. L. Stevenson:

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 11, 1865.

General PETTUS,
Commanding Division :

GENERAL: Let Henderson, after crossing Four Hole Swamp, instead of stopping at the crossing, move down to Sandy Run and report to General McLaws.

By command of Major-General Stevenson:

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 11, 1865.

Colonel HENDERSON,
Commanding Cumming's Brigade :

COLONEL: I am directed by General Stevenson to inform you that the enemy have crossed below you, and to direct you to have your men formed so as to meet him. Send out scouts and ascertain the true state of affairs.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry :

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs me to say that General Stevenson has been forced back beyond the North Fork of the Edisto in the direction of Orangeburg, which would indicate an easterly move by the enemy, and that the move toward Aiken must be a feint, and desires that you move, with all the force you can spare, to his support.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 11, 1865—1 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps :

GENERAL: The following dispatch has just been received from General Hardee, dated Charleston, February 11, 1865:

Place yourself in communication with Wheeler and order him peremptorily to send cavalry to protect the flanks of Stevenson and McLaws. He telegraphed me yesterday that he had ordered 1,300 cavalry to me, which I hope may yet come.

This dispatch is, I presume, in answer to a dispatch of mine, stating that only 100 had reported to McLaws and 100 to Stevenson. General Hardee wishes Col. D. G. White to report to department headquarters as inspector of cavalry. The enemy have just appeared in front of this position. They are understood to have crossed at Holman's and Duncan's Bridges, so it looks as if they were advancing north.

Very respectfully,

W. D. PICKETT,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *February 11, 1865—6 a. m.*

General WHEELER:

I have a force of about 3,000 men, including the Georgia militia. They are located on this side of Big Horse Creek to defend the crossing. I will send General J. A. Smith, with Cleburne's division, about 1,000 men, to Graniteville to assist you in protecting that place. I will be on the road from Augusta to Graniteville. Send all dispatches through General Jim Smith.

B. F. CHEATHAM,
Major-General.

Watch well to my left flank. All is open from this road to the river. I would like to have ten couriers. I will be near Bath Mills during the morning. You may be able to communicate by telegraph.

BATH MILLS, *February 11, 1865.*

General WHEELER:

I sent General Smith, in charge of about 1,000 or 1,200 men, to Graniteville early this morning; I think with his aid you can hold that place. General Bate, with 700 more, is at Little Horse Creek, seven miles from Graniteville; I have a brigade at that place.

B. F. CHEATHAM,
Brigadier-General.

AUGUSTA, GA.,
February 11, 1865—8 a. m.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Your telegram of 3.45 p. m. yesterday did not reach me till 2 o'clock this morning. I hope that you will not depend upon the telegraph; 'tis too uncertain. Two efficient staff officers were at once sent out to look up the quartermaster and get off the corn. The depot quartermasters, you know, are always lazy except about a personal speculation or a sharp operation versus the Government. The corn has been got off by those staff officers, and not by the other worthy gentlemen. I fully appreciate the difficulties mentioned by you as arising from details. This parricidal [practice] breaks up discipline, as well as weakens your command. I myself saw, with Major Millen, nearly if not altogether as many men driving cows as there were cows in the lot. Such ignoble service must destroy the manliness of the cow-drivers. I regret very much the delay about the corn. I want to help you all I can. I do trust that you may be able to concentrate and beat that marauding rascal, Kilpatrick.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
February 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding District of Georgia, Augusta:

GENERAL: You told me your orders were to burn the cotton in Augusta when the enemy had approached to within fifteen miles of the city. I beg that this may not be done. We would feel very badly to burn so much cotton if the enemy should not reach the city. I feel

that the spirit of General Beauregard's order could be carried out and still delay the business until the enemy reaches the river bank at Hamburg. This certainly could be done if pitch and tar were held in readiness to facilitate the burning.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

GRANITEVILLE, *February 11, 1865.*

(Received 1 p. m.)

General WHEELER:

A strong infantry force will be here by 2 o'clock. I congratulate you on your success. Many stragglers from your command?

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

GRANITEVILLE, *February 11, 1865.*

(Received 2.30.)

General WHEELER:

I am here with Cleburne's division, Cheatham's corps; 1,200 men. Communicate with me.

J. A. SMITH,
Brigadier-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 11, 1865.*

(Received 8.40.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

(Care General Cooper, Richmond.)

Reliable scouts report five regiments (about 3,000 men) arrived at Morehead; part have come to New Berne. Large number of negroes cutting cross-ties. Roads bad at present. This is corroborated by a lady just come out from New Berne, who says a division had arrived a day or two after Grant left.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 11, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

I fear the removal of headquarters from here immediately after the transfer of troops to the east will have a depressing effect upon the country.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 11, 1865.*

Col. G. W. BRENT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

The quartermaster here reports that it will require six weeks to ship stores necessary for the use and subsistence of the army, as the mules

will have to wait at Midway for the wagons and the wagons are lightly if at all loaded. Would it not be better to send them across the country in view of the delays? I refer to trains of the army. Please answer.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[FEBRUARY 12, 1865.—For Beauregard to Lee, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1048.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *General-in-Chief:*

General Butler has several hundred serviceable horses in Lancaster and Fairfield which can be foraged only about twenty days in recruiting camps. General Hampton and myself recommend that they be brought here for Young's brigade to protect our communication, now seriously threatened by enemy. Forage is abundant and horses can be better supplied and cared for here.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

Dispatch of 8th just received. General Taylor reported Twenty-third Corps having left Middle Tennessee to join Sherman. Prisoners and deserters report Nineteenth and Twenty-third with Sherman. Lieutenant McAdams just from Savannah reported about 7th instant one division of Nineteenth Corps formed garrison of that city, but Twenty-third had not arrived. I have heard nothing more on subject since leaving Augusta.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

I earnestly recommend, for the good of the service and cause, that General Hampton be promoted temporarily to command all the cavalry of this department, which cannot be rendered otherwise as effective as present emergencies demand. Major-General Wheeler, who ranks only a few days, is a modest, zealous, gallant, and indefatigable officer, but he cannot properly control and direct successfully so large a corps of cavalry.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

Am informed General Ripley is again in Richmond, notwithstanding repeated orders to join his brigade, now fronting enemy near Augusta. I request he be ordered to his post forthwith.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

Capt. A. R. CHISOLM:

(Care of Col. T. D. Wagner, Charleston, S. C.)

I will leave here to-morrow for Charleston.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[FEBRUARY 12, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1071.]

[FEBRUARY 12, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1071.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—7 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Be careful enemy do not strike Northeastern Railroad and bridge by passing between Four Hole Swamp and Santee. Guard well that bridge and crossings of that river.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—9 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

You can better judge of the precise moment for commencing the movement referred to in your telegram of yesterday. I am of opinion that you have not much time to lose to accomplish it successfully.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—9 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Wheeler reported he had gone toward Augusta in obedience to your instructions, leaving 1,400 men to support Stevenson and McLaws. Former officer reports not having yet seen them. Present management of the cavalry surpasses my understanding.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—10 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,

Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

General Ripley's leave was canceled by War Department. He ought to be with his command, now fronting enemy near Augusta.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—10 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

General Wheeler reports having defeated Kilpatrick at Johnson's Turnout, near Aiken. I shall congratulate him. Keep Colonel Clarke for present.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—9.02 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

General Stevenson informs me he will commence retiring to-night on Kingsville and this place. You must hold enemy in check behind Four Hole Swamp and Sandy Run to the Santee, and effectively guard crossings of that river to the Wateree, or enemy may reach North-eastern Railroad before your movement shall have been completed; hence necessity of prompt action on your part. I will leave here to-morrow, if possible, to join you.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—10 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Have already informed you where Wheeler's cavalry is, in obedience to your instructions, as he reports. I have ordered him to return, but you must rely on other arrangements for the protection of the flank referred to.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, [*February*] 12, 1865.

Major-General McLAWS:

In consequence of the movements of the enemy on the coast you will retire from your position at once, falling back in this direction. Send what is left of Conner's brigade to this point, and also Fiser's brigade; cars will be sent to George's Station or any other point you may designate for these troops. Answer.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 12, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Place Fiser's brigade on the train which has been sent for that purpose, and hold it at Ridgeville Station subject to order.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—10 a. m.*

Major-General STEVENSON,
Orangeburg, S. C.:

Be careful that no Government stores are lost as you retire. Save telegraph wire if possible, and destroy roads and bridges as you fall back.

By order of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Major-General McLaws.)

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

General STEVENSON,
Orangeburg, S. C.:

One train now at Kingsville. Another will be there at 3 p. m.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—7.40 p. m.*

Major-General STEVENSON,
Kingsville, or farther if not at Kingsville, S. C.:

Guard well the bridge over the Congaree, and destroy it only when forced to retire.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 12, 1865.*
(Received 10.35.)

General McLaws:

Very heavy skirmishing at Shilling's Bridge. The enemy are engaging us at this front with artillery placed in position last night.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 12, 1865.*
(Received 12 o'clock.)

General McLaws:

When I retire from the Edisto I will cross a brigade at Five Notch crossing at Four Hole Swamp, and order them to Sandy Run to you.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ROWE'S BRIDGE, S. C.,
February 12, 1865—12 m.

Major-General McLaws,
Branchville, S. C.:

GENERAL: The enemy have made their appearance in my front, driving my vedettes from the river to the works. They are in considerable

force. I cannot tell whether infantry or cavalry—they are dismounted and in the swamp. I think they will attempt a crossing at this point. I will hold them in check as well as I can. When I am driven from the river I will fall back on the Orangeburg road. I will dispatch you when I am driven from river.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

W. W. LILLARD,

Captain, Commanding Detachment Fifth Tennessee Cavalry.

BATTERY BEE, *February 12, 1865—9.25 p. m.*

Captain PAGE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter :

Another report just from Andersonville. Twelve vessels of different kinds are quietly anchored in the bay. Two or three gone in the direction of McClellanville.

RHETT,

Colonel.

BATTERY BEE, *February 12, 1865—1 p. m.*

Captain PAGE,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, City :

Thirteen steamers arrived in Bull's Bay at 8 o'clock this a. m.

BOYLSTON,

Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATTERY BEE, *February 12, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

Captain PAGE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter :

Two or three more steamers have entered Bull's Bay. One in creek in front of Andersonville and two in lower end of the bay.

BOYLSTON,

Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY, *February 12, 1865—4.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant BOYLSTON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Battery Bee :

Order Captain Parker's battery back to Andersonville at once.

[P. N. PAGE.]

HEADQUARTERS,

Charleston, February 12, 1865.

Colonel BLACK,

Commanding First South Carolina Cavalry :

COLONEL: You will march with your command to Holly Hill, a point northwest of Sandy River, taking the road via Summerville and Ridgville. You will examine the passes of the road through the "by pass," and the crossing of the road through Four Hole Swamp near Doctor Murray's. You will make your headquarters near Burch's Ford beyond Holly Hill, and dispose of your command so as to cover any advance

of the enemy from the direction of Orangeburg, particularly guarding the passage of the Five Notch road through the Four Hole Swamp. You will establish a courier-line from Burch's Ford to George's Station, and keep me advised of your movements and dispositions and those of the enemy. You will also communicate with General McLaws at Branchville and with any part of General Stevenson's force that may fall back toward the Santee, Four Hole Swamp, or Sandy River. You will especially observe and report if the enemy seek to strike at the Santee River toward Keysville or Vance's Ferry, and will resist, as far as you can, any force that you can cope with. Should the telegraph station at George's Station be interrupted by the threatening of the enemy you will establish a line of couriers, via Eutaw Spring and Pineville, with Saint Stephen's Depot on the Northeastern Railroad.

W. B. TALIAFERRO,
Brigadier-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

Captain PAGE:

See Colonel Black and tell him to send thirty of his men, with a good commanding officer, to the Sandy River country as ordered, and with the rest to proceed himself to reconnoiter and hold the country toward Bull's Bay, passing from Summerville early to-morrow morning to the first crossing by bridge above Strawberry Ferry, and holding the enemy in check as far as he can if he advances toward the Northeastern Railroad, and keeping us well advised of the movements of the enemy and his own, via Monk's Corner.

W. B. TALIAFERRO,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, February 12, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

GENERAL: General Wheeler had quite a handsome affair yesterday at Aiken with Kilpatrick, driving him some four miles. I went down on horseback yesterday and returned at 2 o'clock last night. Examined, with General Wheeler, the Yankee position; could ascertain nothing definite, but was not inclined to think the force large. General W. seems confident that Twentieth Corps was near Windsor yesterday. I send you reports of scouts. If no advance be made to-day, or to-morrow, I think that Cheatham ought to begin his march Tuesday. We have heard nothing of Sherman's movements since crossing the Edisto.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, February 12, 1865.

General B. F. CHEATHAM,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: I have ordered Iverson to send up his Enfields by 2 o'clock train. If you have an ordnance officer here at that hour, you can get

them. I examined, with General Wheeler, the Yankee position four miles below Aiken. I was not inclined to think that there was much force at that point. General Wheeler is confident that Twentieth Corps was near Windsor.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 12, 1865—10.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: General Hardee asks for cavalry to guard his right flank, particularly so much as extends from Sandy Run to the Santee; and General Beauregard directs that you move as soon as practicable, that the wishes of Lieutenant-General Hardee may be carried out.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Col. BRENT: Please send to General Wheeler.

J. M. O.

(Sent from Augusta to General Wheeler, February 13, 1865, 1.30 p. m.)

WILMINGTON, *February 12, 1865.*

Col. H. FORNO,
Columbia:

No force can be spared from this department for the purpose indicated.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FEBRUARY 12, 1865.

Report of a scout.

I proceeded across the Salkehatchie River on the 1st of February, 1865, near the railroad bridge, and on reaching the river road at Blountville found the enemy in motion up the river. The column on this road camped on the night of the 1st about eleven miles north of Pocotaligo, and remained here until the morning of the 3d; then they moved and I followed them near Broxton's Bridge, and then hearing drums to the west, I went off in that direction to the McPhersonville and Buford's Bridgeroad. On arriving at said road, about eighteen miles south of Buford's Bridge (near Richardson's and Bostwick's farms), I found that about 3,000 of the column advancing up this road filed to the right and joined the column at Broxton's Bridge. The remainder of this column camped on this road where the Sister's Ferry road runs into it, from the night of the 4th to the morning of the 7th, and then they proceeded on in the direction of the bridge. Here I turned back, came down the Pocotaligo road, met a supply train of wagons, with about 60 wagons and 200 guards, at or near Mrs. McBride's farm.

Here I came across the country to the Salkehatchie, and crossed fourteen miles south of Broxton's Bridge, and joined my brigade at Raysor's Bridge on the night of the 8th. These two columns consisted chiefly of the Seventeenth and Fifteenth Corps; the Seventeenth near the river, and in my judgment will number from 12,000 to 15,000 men each. Prisoners reported they had thirty-one days' rations in their wagons, and they certainly had very heavy trains. All the prisoners were from the Seventeenth and Fifteenth Corps, save four, and they were taken from a supply train of Kilpatrick's cavalry on the way to Barnwell Court-House. Prisoners from the Fifteenth Corps stated that they expected to be re-enforced by the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps, but had not been up to the time I left (on the morning of the 7th). On this scout, myself and squad turned over to our brigade provost-guard, 6 Yanks, 2 negroes, and from necessity, after getting a considerable distance up the river, turned over 19 to Colonel ———, and brought out 5 mules and 1 horse.

Respectfully,

T. M. PAYSINGER,

Sergt., Company G, Third South Carolina Regt., Conner's Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,

Augusta, February 13, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,

Columbia, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your order to direct Major-General Hill to send to Columbia either Stewart's or Cheatham's corps as soon as practicable. At present General Hill deems it impracticable. Two divisions of the Fourteenth Army Corps encamped last night near Johnson's Turn-Out. An adjutant and a provost-marshal of that corps were taken prisoners. They report that the Fourteenth Corps marched through Barnwell Court-House and struck the railroad about thirty miles from Augusta, and that the Twentieth Corps was moving on their right. Stewart's corps has not yet arrived. Walthall's division will be in to-night. As soon as Stewart is up I think one of the corps can be spared and will be put in motion. I have seen nothing yet to induce me to believe that the enemy is moving this way in force. I have to-day forwarded you several recommendations made by General Forrest for the promotion of several officers. Governor Harris is here and requests that you will remain there until he shall reach Columbia. He will leave to-morrow. A communication of the 6th instant has been received from Brigadier-General McCoy to Major-General Cobb, stating that there is no enemy on the west side of the Little Ogeechee. He feels satisfied that there is no enemy out of Savannah on this side two miles and a half. I will endeavor, if possible, to obtain and forward General Cooper copy of the field return of the Army of Tennessee for the 20th July, 1864.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,

Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FEBRUARY 13, 1865—3.30 p. m.

P. S.—Since writing the above I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of order of last night at 10.30 p. m., directing the movement of Cheatham's corps to Columbia. The order has been given and Cheat-

ham will move at once with five days' cooked rations. The order to General Wheeler has been forwarded to him. He, however, left yesterday morning for Columbia; by what authority or under what circumstances, I am not informed. He will no doubt be in communication with you before the order I have sent can reach him. The last intelligence I have is that the enemy has occupied Orangeburg and that he is advancing in strong force, composed of different arms, on Aiken.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. B.,

Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 13, 1865.*

Maj. W. CLARE,

Assistant Inspector-General:

MAJOR: General Beauregard directs that you will forthwith proceed to inquire into the causes at this point in delays of the transportation of troops. General Walthall's division reached Mayfield yesterday and did not arrive to-day. Ascertain where the blame rests. Inquire into the capacity of the Georgia Railroad for the transportation of troops, and probe thoroughly its operations to ascertain if it be to blame, and, if to blame, whether from inefficiency, carelessness, or indisposition to aid the public service.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,

Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 13, 1865.*

Lient. Col. G. A. HENRY,

Assistant Inspector-General:

COLONEL: General Beauregard directs that you proceed by morning's train to Camak and Mayfield and inquire thoroughly into the causes of the delays and detention of troops at these points. Their rapid transit to this place is of the first importance. Where transportation cannot be had, let them march to the nearest depot where it can be had. Report here each day the troops arriving at Mayfield, or expected to arrive, so that railroad authorities may be advised. It is important to know on whom the responsibility rests for the delays in hastening troops to this point.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,

Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 13, 1865.*

Lient. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

You must depend upon your own troops to guard Santee Swamp. Stevenson is guarding the line from this place to the Wateree.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 13, 1865—12.40 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE, *Comdg. Dept., Charleston, S. C.:*

Dispatch received. General will leave at 3 p. m.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 13, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. CHEATHAM, *Commanding Corps, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you move with your corps at once to Columbia, S. C. The troops should be supplied, and carry with them, five days' cooked rations.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 13, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Twenty-five hundred men of Stewart's corps were furloughed. Those who have returned are passing through by regiments. Cheatham's division has to pass, and is on its way. This includes all. I have established a camp of direction to prevent the straggling of returning squads. Will promptly move headquarters as soon as above troops have passed.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, *February 13, 1865.*
(Received 15th.)

General S. COOPER, *Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Dispatch of 10th received. I do not know the extent of the duties indicated. Had just tendered my services to General Beauregard to build up his army, if Government would give me control of that branch of the service, subject to his orders, west of Savannah River, from whence his army comes. To restore to that army the great number of stragglers is now of highest importance, requiring for success the assistance, temporarily, of a large number of efficient officers. These could be supplied from the supernumerary officers. Before consultation, which does President prefer I should do?

G. J. PILLOW,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted to Hon. Secretary of War.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL:

General Pillow will enter on his duties under the order from your office.

J. C. B[RECKINRIDGE],
Secretary of War.

CHARLESTON, *February 13, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Colcock has sent four companies cavalry by Raysor's Bridge. Take charge of and use them on your front and flank.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 13, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

General Hardee wishes you to send a competent staff officer with some of Colcock's cavalry and find out if possible what the enemy are doing.

D. H. POOLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 13, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Retain Fiser's brigade and dispose of it as you think best.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY, *February 13, 1865—1.25 a. m.*

Lieutenant BOYLSTON, *Battery Bee:*

Young's dismounted men and 400 of Conner's brigade have been ordered to McCormick's Landing. Colonel Rhett is to send Parker's battery to T.

PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATTERY BEE,
February 13, 1865—9 a. m.

Captain PAGE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter:

All quiet on this island. Colonel Rhett is now in the Christ Church lines.

JONES,
Lieutenant.

BATTERY BEE,
February 13, 1865—6.45 p. m.

Captain PAGE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, City:

No further information of the movements of the enemy. Young's men and the Fire Brigade have not yet reported. Le Gardeur's battery is at the church. Horses have been in harness for sixty hours. Parker's battery gone forward. I have ordered two 20-pounder Parrotts from Sullivan's Island to the lines. [*sic*] is to be in readiness to march. Have now 500 men on the line—want 2,000.

RHETT,
Colonel.

BATTERY BEE,
February 13, 1865—7.30 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City :

The last report received from Bull's Bay was forwarded, stating that there are twelve vessels of different kinds on the bay. The kind is not designated. One or two have gone in the direction of McClellanville. Will forward reports as they come in.

I. JONES,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
Adams' Bridge, Columbia and Orangeburg Road,
February 13, 1865—8 a. m.

Major RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General :

MAJOR: I am now eighteen miles from Orangeburg, and said to be twenty-one to Columbia. The enemy broke my line both to the right and left of my center yesterday about 3 o'clock. They were 300 or 400 strong on the left and perhaps not quite so strong on the right. My line being over three miles long, some of my pickets were cut off both on the right and left, and it was impossible for me to communicate with them afterward. They had, however, been instructed as to the direction to retire, and I am in hopes a majority of them will rejoin their command. The number not yet heard from is seventy-five. The balance of my command is here and well in hand, though much jaded. The enemy were evidently in some considerable force opposite me at the bridge, and followed me three or four miles, at which point the cavalry scouts informed me that they turned back. I have not heard from them since. I could see distinctly what appeared to be houses on fire, and especially up the river on my left, as I marched last night. I think a portion of the enemy's forces must have gone up the river on the Bull Swamp road. I shall march on as directed, and reach Columbia as soon as I can, but do not think I can reach that point to-night. If, however, it is absolutely necessary that I should do so, I beg to be advised accordingly.

I am, major, very respectfully,

J. B. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 13, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that Cheatham's corps be at once put in motion for Columbia, S. C., and that Stewart's corps follow to same point as soon as possible, unless otherwise ordered. The troops should be provided with, and carry in haversacks, five days' cooked rations.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 13, 1865—8 p. m.*

General CHEATHAM:

GENERAL: Do you leave in the morning? Walthall's men did not come this evening, through want of transportation. I suppose that you will take all of the men of Lee's corps with you. Where is Featherston's brigade stationed? I will try to get Walthall's men run straight through to Graniteville. Smith, Cumming, and Featherston ought to hold the line up to Bath. Hannon's brigade of cavalry will be here to-night, and I will send it to Graniteville till Walthall gets up.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL.

[FEBRUARY 13, 1865.—For Wheeler to Otey, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1122.]

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 13, 1865—7.15 a. m.*

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of the 11th in regard to rations reached me at 10 last night; that [of] 8.15 p. m. 12th reached me at 7 a. m. to-day. I telegraphed to you last night in regard to a report to Messrs. Hammond and Branch of the sacking of Vacluse by mounted men claiming to belong to your command, and of great depredations being committed on the Edgefield road and west of it. Two certificates signed by Captain Boykin, assistant quartermaster Third Alabama Cavalry, were shown me for horses impressed in the neighborhood of Augusta. If this fellow is acting without orders he ought to be shot like a dog. I am sending out to-day a party to catch, if possible, these wretches who are bringing reproach upon your command. I was very much impressed with the bearing of the officers and men whom I saw the other day, and could not but regret that a few base men should bring odium upon a collection of noble soldiers.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS BUTLER'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 13, 1865—9.15 p. m.

General STEVENSON,

Commanding Infantry, Lee's Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose you a telegraphic dispatch which was given to Captain Lowndes at the telegraph office. Scouts of my command have just returned from the Jones Bridge road, who were in the enemy's camp last night on the south side of the North Fork of the Edisto. They report that the Twentieth Corps (General Williams commanding) crossed at Jeffcoat's Bridge this morning, and they concur in the impression that this force is marching directly on Columbia. They do not report cavalry marching with the enemy's infantry. One report states that the advancing column had advanced twelve miles from Jeffcoat's Bridge in the direction of Columbia about 11 o'clock a. m. to-day; still marching rapidly. The enemy have some of their infantry mounted on horses taken in the country.

Respectfully,

M. C. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 13, 1865—10.30 p. m.

Major-General STEVENSON:

GENERAL: The information brought in by Butler's scouts has been sent to you, and I have communicated it to General Beauregard. Other scouts have been sent out. I suggest that you forward this information to Wheeler and the infantry commands in the direction of Augusta, so as to expedite their movements to this point. I think the line of the Congaree Creek should be held by strong pickets at the fords, whilst we push on the work laid out to-day. If you will hold the bridge over Congaree Creek and the creek up to the mouth of the Six-Mile Creek, Butler will hold all the upper fords as long as he can. I have ordered pickets placed on this side of the river and scouts sent down the State road. If you will concentrate all the cavalry under Butler he will look out for your right flank. I shall have some guns placed on this side of the river, just above the mouth of the Congaree Creek, so as to protect your left, if you are forced from the creek. I think it of the utmost importance to check any advance in this direction, should it be made, and I shall take pleasure in assisting you by all the means in my power. Do place yourself in communication with General Butler, who will forward all papers to me. It would be well for you to keep a courier at telegraph office, which will be kept open to-night.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., *February 13, 1865.*

His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

SIR: I have the honor to report my arrival here on Saturday evening. Yesterday I proceeded to camp, and was shown a very cold shoulder. I however issued an order assuming command. Just at dark a mutiny broke out among the men, which culminated about 9 o'clock in my being severely wounded and rendered insensible by a rock which struck me on the forehead. I was unarmed and could get no assistance whatever, the insubordination extending to the whole command. I have made a report of the matter to Colonel Palmer, a copy of which will be sent to you, so that it is unnecessary for me to enter into details in this communication. I have applied for and obtained leave to report to you in person in Raleigh. I shall probably be eight days from to-morrow in reaching there. After what has occurred, and the cowardly manner in which the regiment acted, it will be impossible for me ever to feel the love and respect I ought to feel for it, and which would be necessary to make it an effective body of men, and under no circumstances will I resume command of it. I have been accustomed to command soldiers between whom and myself there existed a mutual affection. I cannot command a mob who would dare to strike you through me (for there could be no personal prejudice against me). I promised you I would do my duty fearlessly. I feel that I have done so, and that when I have the pleasure of seeing you, you will sustain me in the decision I have arrived at.

Meantime I have the honor to be, Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. TAIT,
Colonel Sixty-ninth North Carolina Troops.

RALEIGH, *February 13, 1865.*

(Received 12.30.)

Hon. J. A. CAMPBELL.

All the reserves are in the field under department and district commanders. I have no men. Greensborough would be a better position for prisoners. If the Junior Reserves can be spared they could constitute guard enough.

TH. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 13, 1865.*

Major-General CLAYTON,
Kingsville, S. C.:

Dispatch received. Guard well also the bridge over the Wateree on the line of railroad between Kingsville and Florence.

By order of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

It is respectfully suggested that the prisoners at Florence be sent to Wilmington and delivered on parole to the enemy, thus relieving us and embarrassing the enemy.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Charleston, February 14, 1865.

Memoranda of orders for Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee:

First. One brigade of Wright's division in Saint Paul's will move by railroad to Monk's Corner and thence march into position (at or about Snowden's) from Sandy Run to Santee River.

Second. The remainder of Wright's division to move via Summer-ville, thence to Grumesville, thence along Northeastern Railroad to Saint Stephen's Depot.

Third. The troops around Charleston will commence the movement when Wright's division shall have reached Summerville.

Fourth. Troops in Christ Church will take steamers to Strawberry Ferry via Cordesville to Saint Stephen's Depot.

Fifth. The troops from James Island along sea front first, thence in succession to Ashley Ferry, thence to Six-Mile House, thence to Saint Stephen's Depot.

Sixth. Troops in Charleston to follow movements to Six-Mile House, thence to Saint Stephen's Depot.

Seventh. When the troops shall have arrived at Monk's Corner, McLaws shall commence the retrograde movement from the left flank resting at Four Hole bridge, passing in rear of Four Hole Swamp, thence by Pineville road to Pineville, thence to Saint Stephen's Depot.

Eighth. The troops on McLaws' right shall follow the movement as they are uncovered from the left.

Ninth. The rear guard of the troops executing these movements shall destroy all bridges and trestle behind them, and railroads when possible.

Tenth. The troops concentrated at Saint Stephen's shall move to form a junction with the troops at Columbia or with the same at Chesterville, following one of three routes, according to the movements of the enemy, as follows:

First. Via Manchester and Kingsville to Columbia or Manchester, Camden and Brown's Ferry, on the Catawba, to Chesterville.

Second. Via Darlington, Kelly's Bridge, on Lynch's Creek, and Brown's Ferry, on the Catawba, to Chesterville.

Third. Via Cheraw, Chesterfield, Lancaster, and Brown's Ferry, on the Catawba, to Chesterville.

In view of the facility the enemy has at Branchville and Orangeburg and in the direction of Columbia, to cut the line of retreat of the garrison of Charleston, as above referred to, it becomes necessary to commence the evacuation as soon as the necessary preparations can be made. The holding of Charleston is now reduced to only a question of a few days. Its loss does not jeopardize the safety of the State of South Carolina, but the loss of its garrison would greatly contribute to that end.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

FEBRUARY 14, 1865.

NOTE.—Lines of march from Charleston to Chesterville:

	Days.
Along Northeastern Railroad to Santee.....	4
To cross	2
To Darlington (Black River and Lynch's River to cross).....	4
To Chesterville via Kelly's Bridge.....	6
Catawba to cross	16
To Santee	6
To Chesterville via Statesburg and Camden	9
Catawba to cross	15
To Santee	6
To Cheraw (Black and Lynch's Rivers to cross)	6
To Chesterville	5½
Catawba to cross	17½

For the information of the War Department.

AUGUSTA, *February 15* [14?], 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Columbia, S. C.:*

GENERAL: All the cavalry reports of enemy's advance yesterday in this direction proved to be unfounded. The enemy has retired across the Edisto, and is reported moving toward Orangeburg. Cheatham's corps will move in the morning at 3 o'clock. He could not get ready to-day. General Hill has been quite nervous about the cotton, but is now quiet. Wheeler's cavalry has been committing outrages about Graniteville, and General Hill has sent an officer to investigate the facts. Major Willis will probably leave in the morning for Columbia.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 14, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE, *Charleston, S. C.:*

Your dispatch of the 12th received to-day.* The enemy may, and probably does, intend to attack Charleston, but it is by no means manifested by present operations. It is proper under the view presented to remove whatever is not needful for defense of the place, and then to postpone evacuation as long as prudent. If General Beauregard can beat the enemy in the field, the cause herein indicated may preserve the city and harbor for future use, and save us the pain of seeing it pass into the hands of the enemy. General Beauregard and yourself are so well informed of the condition of the armies and practicability of routes that I must leave you to the free exercise of your judgment. It, however, seems to me that the bridge over the Santee can be defended against a boat expedition up that river, without materially interfering with other operations, and a movement by the enemy overland from Bull's Bay is hardly to be anticipated.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 37.

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, February 14, 1865.

* * * * *

XIII. Pursuant to telegram from this office under date of January 21, 1865, Brig. Gen. R. S. Ripley, Provisional Army, C. S., will immediately proceed to Columbia, S. C., and report to General G. T. Beauregard for assignment to duty with his proper command.

* * * * *

By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 38.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,
Charleston, S. C., February 14, 1865.

* * * * *

VIII. Maj. Gen. A. R. Wright will send the brigade of South Carolina militia at once by rail, via Charleston, to Monk's Corner, on the Northeastern Railroad. The brigade will then march to Snowden's and take position there, picketing to the Santee on the one side, and to Sandy Run on the other.

* * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATTERY BEE,
February 14, 1865.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City:

No attack up to 11.20 last p. m. Conner's men have arrived, and Andersonville reported safe. No firing heard during the night. Will inform you promptly if anything occurs.

RHETT,
Colonel.

CITY, *February 14, 1865—10.30 a. m.*Colonel RHETT,
Battery Bee :

I have received no estimate of the number of the enemy's troops. Why has it not been sent? Why has Blake not reported? It is important to keep me advised, and must be done. Send, if necessary, special courier to-night to ascertain facts. Use artillery horses if you have no cavalry. Will send engineers in the a. m. Stop Quirk's company, engineer troops, now at McCormick's Landing, to do the work at the lines. They will leave for the city in the a. m. unless you stop them to-night. Signal men will be sent.

TALIAFERRO,
General.

 BATTERY BEE,
February 14, 1865—4.10 p. m.
Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter :

All quiet at Andersonville. Colonel Rhett wishes to know if you have ordered an engineer company to the lines.

JONES,
Lieutenant.

 HEADQUARTERS SECOND AND THIRD SUB-DISTRICTS,
Charleston, February 14, 1865.

[Colonel BLACK?:]

COLONEL: I am directed by Brigadier-General Taliaferro to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 13th instant, just received, and to direct you to push on to Bull's Bay. Resist any effort the enemy may make to strike the Northeastern Railroad, and keep him informed of the movements and position of the enemy. He directs that you will guard especially against any attempt on the part of the enemy to advance from or land at McClellanville, and send him as accurate an estimate as you can make of the enemy's force. He is very desirous of obtaining this information, as he has been unable so far to get it from Colonel Rhett. A telegraph office will be situated at Monk's Corner to-morrow.

[P. N. PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

 HDQRS. THIRD SQUADRON, THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAV.,
George's Station, February 14, 1865.
Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General :

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your order directing a scout to be made of the roads between this and the Santee River, and have sent forward a reliable officer for the purpose. The distance is great also from here to your headquarters, but I will endeavor to furnish the information required as soon as possible. I have been acting under orders from Captain Smart, who directed me not to advance too closely to the enemy. I have sent scouts to Branchville and up the Orangeburg road. From an intelligent negro, who walked

the track from Orangeburg to this place, I am informed that the enemy had nearly all passed through Orangeburg, advancing toward Columbia and the Northeastern Railroad. I could have advanced farther toward Orangeburg, but was directed by Captain Smart to take my squadron to Reeves' Station and scout toward Branchville. I will be up the Orangeburg road, having a small picket at George's Station and at the intersection of the Orangeburg road with road leading from the station. I am acting under orders from Captain Smart, and also, it appears, from Lieutenant Bennett, so I hope that the major-general will not consider me responsible for information, except in the event of my being cut off from these officers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. C. HËYWARD,

Captain, Commanding Squadron Third South Carolina Cavalry.

HDQES. DETACHMENT FIFTH SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,

Appleby's Bridge, February 14, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Please say to the major-general commanding that I am at Appleby's Bridge with one squadron, and have the other moving up parallel with this on the Orangeburg road, which is on the opposite side of the railroad. Constant communication is kept up by couriers through neighborhood roads and paths. A strong scouting party was sent up in the neighborhood of Branchville, as soon as we reached this place, with instructions to find the enemy and ascertain his line of march, force, character of troops, &c. They have not yet reported, and I feel confident from that fact that the enemy are not in the immediate neighborhood of Branchville. Lieutenant Bennett, of Texas troops, reported to me yesterday evening as a scout, with orders from Major-General McLaws. He says that the major-general desires us to move up on both roads until we find the enemy. This is in conflict with instructions given me by Colonel Fiser and Captain King, assistant adjutant-general, who said we must keep in supporting distance of our infantry. If Lieutenant Bennett is properly instructed you will please inform me. I know nothing of him. His order is signed by Major-General McLaws and not by an adjutant. I am advancing slowly on both roads, and hope to be at or above Branchville to-night, scouting in advance. Will be glad to follow up the enemy's rear and flank it, agreeable to the major-general's plans. Please forward the accompanying to Colonel Colcock.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. SMART,

Captain, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,

February 14, 1865.

Major HAMILTON:

You will relieve to-day Palmer's battalion of artillery ordered to move with Major-General Cheatham. Two guns will be sent to Graniteville and two to Bath to take the place of those at those points. Thus relieving battery of your guns will be subject to the order of Major-

General Walthall at Graniteville. Your remaining battery will be placed in position near the crossing of Big Horse Creek by the Beach Island road, and will be subject to the command of Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, February 11, 1865.

Brigadier-General FRY,
Commanding Post:

GENERAL: These headquarters having been informed that there are several local companies in this city armed with Enfield rifles, General Beauregard desires that you will cause their arms to be collected by Captain Finney and turned over to Cheatham's corps. These companies can be supplied with muskets now in charge of Captain Finney. I annex a list of the companies holding the rifles: Smith's and Pendleton's companies, at powder mills; Markey's and Caminade's companies, at machine works; Smythe's company, at arsenal; Clemons' and Rowley's companies, at shoe and wagon factory; Cross' company, at shoe factory; Holmes' company, at medical depot.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, February 14, 1865.

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard directs that you report to him at Columbia, S. C., at once, prepared to visit Richmond, Va.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., February 14, 1865.

Hon. G. A. TRENHOLM,
Secretary of Treasury, Richmond, Va.:

General Beauregard left for Charleston yesterday evening and will return to-morrow morning. General Hampton advises the removal of Treasury Note Bureau to Charlotte, N. C., or some point beyond. The information has been extended to Mr. Leitch, assistant treasurer, and Mr. C. F. Hanckel, of the Treasury Note Bureau.

ALB. FERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 14, 1865.

Major-General CHEATHAM,
Commanding Corps, Augusta, Ga.:

General Beauregard directs you to hasten your movement on Columbia.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865—1.45 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. A. P. STEWART, *Newberry, S. C.:*

General Beauregard directs you to hasten your movement on Columbia or to join General Wheeler, as circumstances may best require.

ALB. FERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

The enemy have driven Clayton across the railroad bridge, and it has been burnt. He reports heavy force moving on McCord's Ferry. Re-enforcements sent there from Kingsville. Cavalry have been skirmishing with the enemy in front on Little Congaree bridge, and have checked their advance.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Near Columbia, February 14, 1865.

Governor MAGRATH, *Columbia:*

GOVERNOR: Colonel Bartow's forces sent to Kingsville to assist in the defense of the river in that vicinity. Major-General Clayton (with his division) is there in command, and I am not informed to what point Colonel Bartow has been assigned, but I suppose with a portion of the division at one of the ferries near by. The enemy drove our troops to day from the south side of the railroad bridge and it was burned. Re-enforcements were sent to McCord's Ferry, in which direction the enemy was moving. I do not think the militia can be spared at present, but will relieve them if the governor desires it.

I am, governor, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

KINGSVILLE, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

The enemy appeared in force at the railroad bridge at 12 m. to-day; after skirmishing awhile our forces fell back across the bridge and burned the bridge. Scouts brought in prisoner of Seventeenth Army Corps, who says that corps is near Fort Motte; Fifteenth Army Corps confronting Columbia. All quiet to-night.

H. D. CLAYTON,
Major-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Scouts report enemy camped on State road—Fifteenth Corps in front, Twentieth next, Tenth [Seventeenth?] next, think Fourteenth in rear. Prisoner from Kilpatrick's wagon train reports him on Blackville and Columbia road; says they are marching on Columbia.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1865—10 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. W. HAMPTON,

Commanding Sub-District, Columbia, S. C.:

If report be confirmed, order in my name General Wheeler to concentrate forthwith for the defense of Columbia, either by joining his forces to yours or by attacking enemy in flank and rear. Order also Generals Cheatham and Stewart to hasten their movement on Columbia, or to join Wheeler, as circumstances may best require. Be careful dispatches do not fall into the hands of the enemy.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1865—10 a. m.*

General W. HAMPTON,

Commanding Sub-District, Columbia, S. C.:

Order to Wheeler must not include Dibrell's brigade or equivalent ordered by General Hardee to guard McLaws' right flank from Four Hole Swamp to Santee and crossing of Santee.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Enemy demonstrating at Thewitz Ferry; think they will cross there. Re-enforcements should go to Kingsville. Think movement against this place serious. All quiet in front.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Charleston, S. C.:*

Enemy's infantry four miles from Congaree Creek bridge and reported advancing. Other columns of infantry moving on road toward Lexington Court-House.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865—1.45 p. m.*

General JOSEPH WHEELER,

Commanding Cavalry, &c.:

General Beauregard orders you to concentrate forthwith for the defense of Columbia, either by joining your forces to those of General Hampton or by attacking enemy in flank or rear.

ALB. FERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 14, 1865—8 a. m.*

General ALFRED IVERSON, *Green's Cut:*

GENERAL: Cheatham was ordered to move at daylight this morning. The order for the exchange of Enfields to be turned over to him was issued on the 11th, repeated on the 12th and 13th. Through some

unaccountable delay Cheatham has to march without them. The operator at Green's Cut has been reported out of his office when messages were to be sent. You must have a party opposite Stony Bluff to watch and resist a crossing. Keep your command habitually ready to move at a moment's notice. Many deserters are said to be crossing at the upper bridges of Brier Creek. Prevent this thing as far as you can.

Respectfully, &c.,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 14, 1865—1 p. m.*

General IVERSON:

GENERAL: If Ferguson reaches Brier Creek to-night you will march to this place to-morrow, explaining to him the nature of the ground, character of the country, &c., before you leave. Give him all the information which would be useful to him in his new situation. The guns have not yet reached here. I wish you would see personally about them, and let me know what has become of them.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 14, 1865.

Colonel Hannon will proceed with his brigade to Aiken and relieve the brigade of cavalry on duty. He will picket all the approaches to Augusta, and keep the officer commanding infantry forces at Graniteville, General G. W. Smith, on Big Horse Creek, and these headquarters, apprised of all movements of the enemy. He will still be subject to orders from these headquarters of District of Georgia.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

RALEIGH, *February 14, 1865.*
(Received 10 o'clock.)

Hon. J. A. CAMPBELL:

Shall I order the Third Regiment Junior Reserves to report to Colonel Forno? Wadesborough, the terminus of Wilmington and Rutherford Railroad, is a fruitful country that has not been yet touched. This region is exhausted.

TH. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

BY THE GOVERNOR:

A Proclamation to the people of North Carolina.

Whereas, it is incumbent on me, by virtue of the high trusts your partiality has conferred upon me, to watch with vigilance over your welfare, guard with fidelity your interests, and warn you of every approaching danger: Now, therefore, I, Zebulon B. Vance, governor

of the said State, actuated by a sacred sense of duty and love of country, do deem it necessary to address you in this manner in regard to the dangers and duties of the present time, earnestly praying that it may be conducive to harmony and good will, wherein only is to be found a safe and honorable deliverance from all our troubles. It is known to you all that in the beginning of these troubles North Carolina was so decidedly opposed to imitating the secession of her Southern sisters that any attempt to force her to do so by even a majority of her people, prior to the proclamation of Lincoln in 1861, would most likely have resulted in civil war among our own citizens. It pleased God, however, to prevent this calamity and to calm all the fierce passions of party bitterness, and to cause the most perfect unanimity by means of that proclamation, which placed before us the dire necessity of either assisting or slaughtering our own brothers and friends. Interest, honor, and sympathy combined to decide us upon resistance to what all united in condemning as a cruel and wicked war upon the homes and liberties of the South. With unexampled zeal we entered into the war, rushed forward our bravest sons, and poured out our richest treasures. With immense sacrifices and varying fortunes we continued the struggle, still with great unanimity, for years. About the end of the third year, however, a portion of our people, in common with many others throughout the South, seeing how our best citizens were falling, and how our fairest lands were desolated, began to urge that peace should be sought for by negotiations as well as by the sword. They argued that our Confederate authorities, moved by pride of opinion and embittered by the length and fierceness of the conflict, had not made a sufficient trial of statesmanship as a means of stopping the war, that no doubt if properly approached, either by commissioners appointed by our common Government, or by the States separately, supposing diplomatic reasons would prevent the enemy from treating with the former, that our enemy would grant us better terms than we had supposed, and promising that if a fair and honest effort at negotiations should be spurned by the enemy or rejected, then all classes and conditions of men in the South would unite in an earnest prosecution of the war. This was the first serious approach to a division among our people. Sympathizing with the reasonableness of this demand, though not with all the reasons given for believing in its efficiency, and being as sincerely desirous as it was possible for man to be, to stop the war on honorable terms, I, as your governor, addressed President Davis in December, 1863, and urged this course upon him. In answer thereto, he assured me that three separate and distinct efforts had been made to treat with the enemy without obtaining even a hearing, and that he did not see how a fourth one could be initiated without humiliation to ourselves and injury to our cause. Trusting that Providence would yet open the way the matter rested here for another year. Many, however, of our people, who advocated peace upon such vague and ill-defined terms as to cause doubts of their good faith and loyalty, continued sedulously to disseminate the opinion that our own Government alone was to blame for the continuance of the war; going so far in some instances as to threaten revolutionary measures for wresting the treaty-making power from its hands, and negotiating with the enemy ourselves, alleging that we could certainly get such terms, if the States would act in their sovereign capacity, as would secure our property and slaves by reconstruction. Since the beginning of the present year, however, two individuals from the North, having visited Richmond on a peace mission by the authority of President Lincoln, and

having, as our President supposed, opened the way for another effort at negotiations, it was promptly made. He immediately sent a delegation through the lines for that purpose, consisting of Vice-President Stephens, Judge Campbell, late of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, U. S. Senator from the State of Virginia—men all eminent for their abilities, public services, and the long continued confidence and respect of their countrymen. The first two are well known to have opposed the beginning of this war, and to sympathize with the general desire for negotiations. They were met at Fortress Monroe, by President Lincoln and Mr. Seward, his Secretary of State, who, without allowing them to leave the boat on which they arrived, told them what appears in the following official report:

RICHMOND, *February 5, 1865.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES:

SIR: Under your letter of appointment of Commissioners of the 28th, we proceeded to seek an informal conference with Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, upon the subject mentioned in your letter. The conference was granted, and took place on the 3d instant on board a steamer anchored in Hampton Roads, where we met President Lincoln and Hon. Mr. Seward, Secretary of State for the United States. It continued for several hours, and was both full and explicit. We learned from them that the message of President Lincoln to the Congress of the United States in December last explains clearly and distinctly his sentiments as to the terms, conditions, and mode of proceeding by which peace could be secured to the people, and we were not informed that they would be modified or altered to attain that end. We understood from him that no terms or proposals of any treaty or agreement looking to an ultimate settlement would be entertained or made by him with the authorities of the Confederate States, because that would be a recognition of their existence as a separate power, which, under no circumstances, would be done, and for like reasons, that no such terms would be entertained by him from States separately, that no extended truce or armistice, as at present advised, would be granted or allowed, without a satisfactory assurance in advance of the complete restoration of the authority of the Constitution and laws of the United States over all places within the States of the Confederacy; that whatever circumstances may follow from the re-establishment of that authority must be accepted out and out. Individuals subject to pains and penalties under the laws of the United States might rely upon a very liberal use of the power confided to him, to remit these pains and penalties if peace be restored. During such conference the proposed amendments to the Constitution adopted by Congress on the 31st ultimo were brought to our notice. These amendments provide that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for crime, should exist within the United States, or in any place within its jurisdiction, and Congress should have power to enforce the amendments by appropriate legislation. Of all the correspondence that preceded the conference herein mentioned, and leading to the same, you have heretofore been informed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

A. H. STEPHENS.
R. M. T. HUNTER.
J. A. CAMPBELL.

Thus you see that neither terms nor conditions were spoken of in the interview, but only subjugation offered us, the mere details of which they proposed to settle. At one blow all our hopes in the humanity and moderation of our enemies were dashed to the ground. No terms or proposals of a treaty, coming either from the Confederate States, or any one of the States, would be entertained, but a complete, absolute, and unconditional submission to the Constitution and laws of the United States is required as a preliminary step to any, even the slightest, cessation of hostilities. Seeing, then, that we can treat with the enemy neither by the authorities of the Confederate States, nor by separate State action, what will be the result if we submit, as we are required to do? This we can partly judge by examining that Constitution and those laws to which we are required to yield obedience.

That Constitution is not the one we left. In addition to the changes it has undergone by corrupt and violent interpretation by Black Republican judges, its wording has been so changed as to decree immediately and forever the abolition of slavery. The "laws," to whose tender mercies we are referred, provide most minutely and particularly for the punishment of death by the halter of every man, soldier, sailor or marine, civilians and others, who have been engaged in what they term rebellion. Not ceasing to punish with the death of the offender, the "laws" of the United States also provide that all his property, real and personal, shall be confiscated. The only mitigation of the rigor threatened by these laws is contained in Mr. Lincoln's proclamation accompanying his annual message in December, 1863, in which he proposes to hang only those above the rank of colonel in the Army and lieutenant in the Navy, and all civil and diplomatic officers or agents of the Confederate Government, and various other classes therein specified, coupled with a vague intimation to our commissioners, in their recent interview, that whilst we must prepare to accept all the pains and penalties of the laws, we might rely on a liberal use of the pardoning power vested in him. He also informs us that the terms set forth in his recent message of December last, wherein he re-endorses the above-mentioned proclamation, will be rigidly adhered to. Now then, we can sum up in some sort the consequences of our submission: Four million slaves, 200,000 of whom have been in arms against us, turned loose at once in our midst; our lands confiscated and sold out to pay the cost of our subjugation, or parceled among negro soldiers as the reward of the slaughter of their masters; our women, children, and old men reduced to beggary, and driven from their once happy homes; our mutilated and diseased soldiers, starving in rags from door to door, spurned by even pensioned negro soldiers, whilst the gallows grows weary under the burden of wisest statesmen and bravest defenders, to say nothing of universal financial ruin and the intolerable oppression of a rapacious and vindictive foe, in the hour of conquest. Great God! Is there a man in all this honorable, high spirited, and noble Commonwealth so steeped in every conceivable meanness, so blackened with all the guilt of treason, or so damned with all the leprosy of cowardice as to say: Yes, we will submit to all this; and whilst there yet remains half a million men amongst us able to resist. And who says the enemy will give us anything better? Not Mr. Lincoln; and do the weak and vacillating among us know better than he does what he will do for us? Having made, therefore, a fair and honest effort to obtain peace by negotiation, and knowing now precisely, from the lips of the President of the United States, what we are to expect, what are we to do next? There is only one thing left for us to do. We must fight, my countrymen, to the last extremity, or submit voluntarily to our own degradation. Let no man mistake the issue now. The line of distinction will be drawn plainly between those who are for their country and those who are against their country. There is no half-way house upon the road. The purifying fire is even now burning throughout the land, and its consuming flames must separate the dross from the true metal. Degradation, ruin, and dishonor on the one hand; liberty, independence, and honor, if our souls be strong, on the other. Is it not worth another honest and manly effort? Aye, another, and another, and another, and a thousand efforts of our whole people. As North Carolinians, descendants of Revolutionary heroes, and fathers and brothers of the noblest dead and living soldiers that ever drew a blade for human freedom, we cannot tolerate the thought of such base and

infamous submission. Should we willfully throw down an organized government, disband our still powerful armies, and invite all these fearful consequences upon our country, we would live to have our children curse our gray hairs for fastening our dishonor upon them. I trust and believe that there will be little difference of opinion in North Carolina as to the propriety of continued resistance. The great argument which will be brought forward to shake your honor and intended to incite you to despair will be, that successful resistance is no longer possible. Some will tell you that we are already subdued; that the enemy outnumbers us; that our fighting men are all slain; our resources all exhausted, and we might as well submit now. This, my countrymen, is false, and as frequently proceeds from a craven or a traitorous as from an honest but mistaken spirit. Great as our calamities have been, straightened as we are for all supplies both of men and material, I tell you, in all candor, that when I survey our condition by the light of human history, I see no danger which threatens to be fatal to our cause, except this depression of spirit among the people, and the still more fearful risk of internal dissension. So long as we remain one, and determined, it is not in the power of our enemies to subdue us. "But except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved."

All things may be supplied if we were but possessed of that bold and manly spirit of resistance to tyranny of which liberty and independence are born. That alone can fill the widow's barrel, and still the orphan's cry; can cast cannons and build ships of war; can raise up armed men from the dust of the dragon's teeth; can wrest tangible realities from the very jaws of impossibility. Without it, numbers but add to the ignominy of certain defeat, even as the Persian millions were whipped and shamed by the 300 in the mountain pass. Are our men all slain? Over 400,000 names yet stand upon the muster-rolls of the Confederacy, to say nothing of the many thousands who shirk. Where are they? Thousands upon thousands, absent without leave, are lurking in the woods and swamps of the South. Are our provisions all gone? Hundreds of thousands of bushels of grain now rot at the various depots of the South for want of transportation; and this transportation cannot be protected because these absent soldiers are not at the post of duty. Oh, my countrymen, if you would but rise to entreat, to shame, to drive them back to their country's standard! Has our territory been overrun? It has, but how much of it has been held? The enemy marched triumphantly through the heart of our sister, Georgia, and is she conquered? Except for the garrison at Savannah, and the ashes of desolation on their track through the interior, Georgia has neither enemy nor the sign of enemy on her soil. So of most portions of the South which space does not permit me to enumerate. For four years their countless legions have gnawed at the vitals of Virginia, yet to-day they claim not even all of her territory which is swept by their cannon. The cities they garrison, the land their armies actually stand upon, and the waters ridden by their fleets, are all that they really hold, or ever can hold except by our ignoble consent. Let the balance of our cities go, Mobile, Charleston, Wilmington, Richmond, all, and if we are determined to be free our subjugation is quite as distant as ever. For, thank God, the Confederacy does not consist in brick and mortar, or particular spots of ground, however valuable they may be in a military point of view. Our nationality consists in our people. Liberty dwells in the heart of her votaries, and the ragged, barefooted soldiers, standing in the depth of the forest, or in the shadow of the mountain, can offer her sacrifices which

will be as sweet and as acceptable as those proffered in gorgeous temples in the midst of magnificent cities. So if our country and its cause, like to the kingdom of God, be enthroned in our hearts, then, indeed, am I persuaded that neither principalities nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor heighth, nor depth, nor life, nor death, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from that independence and honor for which our people have suffered and our sons have died. Therefore, my countrymen, having warned you of this danger which is upon us, I now appeal to you by everything held sacred among men to bear yourselves as becomes your high lineage and future hopes. I implore you to lay down all party bitterness, and to be reconciled to your neighbor for the sake of your country; to use every possible exertion to restore absentees to the army; to divide of your abundance freely with the poor and the suffering; to strengthen the arms of your rulers, and to sustain your soldiers and their generals, and to give cheerfully your aid, physical and mental and moral, in whatever sphere you may be, to prevent the degradation of your country, and the ruin of its people. For the purpose of determining the best means of accomplishing this, as well as for giving expression to your opinions, I earnestly recommend that you assemble in primary meetings in every county in the State, and let the whole world, and especially our enemies, see how a free people can meet a proposition for their absolute submission to the will of their conquerors.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State, in our city of Raleigh, on the 14th day of February, A. D. 1865.

[L. S.]

Z. B. VANCE.

By the Governor:

A. M. MCPHEETERS,
Private Secretary.

[FEBRUARY 15, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1071.]

FLORENCE, S. C., *February 15, 1865—a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,

Commander-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

I have arranged with General Hardee for the immediate evacuation of Charleston and concentration of our forces at Chesterville, S. C. If those of General Bragg could be added thereto, success might yet crown our efforts, however dark may appear the present hour.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SUMTER STATION, S. C., *February 15, 1865—a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,

Richmond, Va.:

Generals Stevenson and Hampton report from Columbia enemy has appeared in their front and driven their pickets across Congaree at railroad bridge near Kingsville. They consider movement on Columbia serious. I am on my return there.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,

General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

Have just arrived from Charleston. Generals Stevenson and Hampton report Sherman's four corps moving on this place, two of them pressing our troops back on south side to within about four miles of the river. Cheatham's corps has not yet arrived. We will hold the city as long as practicable with present available means.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,

General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

Indications are now positive to my mind that enemy intends moving on Charlotte. I cannot concentrate in time sufficient force to check him. Shall I continue in his front, or put my base toward Georgia or North Carolina? I advise removing soon as possible all stores from his line of march. Please answer.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Maj. R. RHETT,

Assistant Quartermaster:

General Beauregard wishes every effort made to remove all quartermaster stores from this place to some point on the Charlotte railroad beyond Chesterville.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Capt. J. D. WITHERSPOON,

Assistant Commissary of Subsistence:

CAPTAIN: General Beauregard directs that all the subsistence stores, except 50,000 rations, be sent from the city in the direction of Chester-ville and Charlotte, N. C.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

COMMANDING OFFICER CHESTERVILLE, S. C.:

Please have trains unloaded that they may be returned promptly. Impress labor if needed.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Similar dispatch to commanding officer Charlotte, N. C.)

FLORENCE, *February 15, 1865—7 a. m.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C. :

Order all roads and bridges repaired on the three routes designated. Horses impressed in and about Charleston must be used for remounting Young's cavalry. Impress also saddles and bridles if necessary.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SUMTERVILLE, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C. :

Commence immediately movement as arranged, and if practicable average twenty miles a day. Collect at once sufficient provisions and forage at proper points on several routes designated.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C. :

Dispatch of to-day received, containing President's dispatch.* I have far from sufficient force to hold the enemy in check in the field. He is at this moment investing Columbia with his four corps (as reported) on the south side of Congaree. Hence I see no good reason for deviating from the plan already decided upon; on the contrary, I urge its immediate execution.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C. :

Send here soon as practicable 1,000,000 rounds small-arms ammunition and 2,500 rounds 12-pounder Napoleon.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 15, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C. :

GENERAL: General Cheatham's corps left this morning with Palmer's battalion artillery. The larger part of Stewart's corps has reached here and will move pursuant to your orders as soon as it can be put in condition to do so. It will muster only 1,000 effectives. The whole command is in a bad condition. Ferguson has been directed by General Hill to take position on Brier Creek and Iverson has been moved over the river. No news from the West. The enemy seems to have gone from our immediate front.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

* See Davis to Hardee, February 14, p. 1181.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 38. }

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, February 15, 1865.

* * * * *

XLII. Capt. R. H. Fitzhugh, Corps of Engineers, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty with the chief-engineer Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and will report to Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee, commanding, &c., Charleston, S. C.

* * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War :

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 15, 1865.*

General McLaws:

Our safety depends on your giving me prompt information of any movement of the enemy from Branchville or Orangeburg toward Four Hole Swamp. Send an engine up the road, if necessary.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND AND THIRD SUB DIST., SOUTH CAROLINA,
Charleston, February 15, 1865.

Brig. Gen. S. ELLIOTT:

GENERAL: It has been determined to evacuate Charleston. I have to beg that you will continue in command of the troops now with you, if you cannot longer, at least until you cross the Santee.

I. It is the present intention to evacuate on Friday night; if that day shall be anticipated or a later day fixed, you will be duly notified.

II. I desire you to make every preparation for the destruction of your guns and gun carriages, and such powder as may be left in your magazines as may be consistent with a safe retreat. To burn your gun carriages or to attempt to burst your guns or blow up the magazines would perhaps be an intimation of our intention prematurely to the enemy, therefore you will destroy the gun carriages as far as practicable by sawing and cutting them to pieces, your guns by spiking and shooting them, and your powder by throwing it into the water.

III. You will move out from your lines at an early hour on Friday night, withdrawing first from Battery Trenholm, then from Secessionville, then through Fort Johnson and Haskell sections of the commands, and lastly from the new lines, Pringle and Tynes, and concentrate your troops near McCloud's house.

IV. You will then march across the Wappoo Creek by the nearest route to Ashley Ferry (bridge); cross the Ashley and down the Dorchester road to the intersection of that road with the State road leading to Monk's Corner, where you will halt until joined by the troops from Charleston, or until further orders are given you. It is important to accomplish this march by morning.

V. You will leave your ordinary picket in front of the new lines. This picket will consist of picked men under picked officers, who will retire after you have concentrated your troops, and which must be put on picket on the night of the evacuation in order that they may be fresh.

VI. You will leave a few cavalry at the new lines and Fort Johnson until morning, when they will observe and report to you any operations of the enemy. These cavalry parties will burn the bridges across the James Island Creek, at Dill's Bluff, and the bridges near Holmes' house and Newtown Cut; also the pontoon, drawbridge, and upper Wappoo Cut bridge, near Fort Pemberton. The infantry picket will act as provost guard and bring up all stragglers.

VII. You will order the troops on the line of the Stono, in Saint Andrews, on the main and the overflow, to conform to your movements and join you at such point as you think proper.

VIII. When you move you will require your troops to march compactly, commanding officers of companies in rear of their companies, and permit no soldier to break ranks for any purpose without permission of the commanding officer of his company. Direct the officer to enforce this, if necessary, by shooting the offender.

IX. You will halt your troops at proper intervals, stack arms, and call the roll, allowing your troops to rest a reasonable time.

X. You will require your ambulances (or two-horse wagons substituted for ambulances) to march in rear of each organization, to convey such men as may be unable to march, and will require the surgeons to march in rear of their several organizations to decide whether the condition of the soldiers entitles them to such transportation. This and preceding paragraph will apply to all future marches.

XI. You will send to the city to-day or early to-morrow morning all your sick, and such men as are not fit for active service, and you will also forward to-day and to-night such surplus material, ordnance, and ordnance stores as in your judgment can be spared with due regard to holding your lines to the day of evacuation. This is not intended to apply to shot and shell for heavy guns, for which we have no transportation, or to other than fixed ammunition for your guns of small caliber.

XII. I desire you to issue five days' rations to your troops, commencing on Thursday morning, which will give you two days' rations in camp, and three days' rations on the march. Of these five days' rations, three days' rations at least (or at your discretion all) must consist of hard bread and bacon at the rate of one pound hard bread and one-half pound bacon to the ration. If you have sugar or coffee now on the island, either for general issue or hospital purposes, issue five days' sugar and coffee to your men.

XIII. For the purpose of preventing any incumbrance or impediment to our movements, you will require Captain Mordecai, assistant quartermaster, to distribute according to the order sent you yesterday the transportation for your command. You will have the wagons parked for each command at an early hour on to-morrow morning (16th instant), and will notify commanding officers of your different organizations that the load of each wagon will be weighed by the division quartermaster, and that any excess of 1,500 pounds to each four-horse wagon, or 700 pounds to each two-horse wagon, will be thrown off and abandoned when it reports to him.

XIV. In packing the wagons regard will be had first to men and officers' cooking utensils; second, to officers' bedding, and third, to officers' clothing. No trunk or box for officers (except hand-trunks) containing clothing will be packed on any wagons except staff wagons.

XV. These wagons will report by 12 m. on the 16th instant to your district quartermaster, Captain Mordecai (who will act as quartermaster of your command until the crossing of the Santee), at his

wagon yard in Saint Andrew's Parish, when you will direct him to move with the least possible delay with these and such other wagons as he may be required by myself to take charge of to Saint Stephen's Depot, on the Northeastern Railroad, pursuing the route indicated for the march of your troops across the Ashley, &c.

XVI. You will send a staff or such line officer as you may detail with a small detail of couriers and guides to examine the route indicated for our march and select the best road.

XVII. Colonel Colcock with his cavalry will burn the Ashley Ferry bridge after its passage by your command.

XVIII. Before leaving the island you will cause all boats to be destroyed. I shall rely upon your judgment and discretion to give such other instructions as you may deem necessary to accomplish the desired object.

XIX. You will inform signal and telegraph operators of your movements so that they may escape with their instruments.

[W. B. TALIAFERRO.]

BATTERY BEE,

February 15, 1865—6 a. m.

Captain PAGE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter :

I think that if the whole of Parker's battery be left at Andersonville, one gun of Le Gardeur's battery be sent to Graham's and another to Buck Hall, with a support of 100 men, that it would render the position secure. Have not made the arrangements, and shall not do it unless I receive orders from General Taliaferro, as the firing on Stono renders it possible Le Gardeur's will be needed there.

RHETT,
Colonel.

BATTERY BEE,

February 15, 1865—6 p. m.

Captain PAGE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter :

Your dispatch just received 2.10 p. m. The information you ask for has been sent you in repeated dispatches. I will leave Mount Pleasant immediately to see the general. I should like to send two Parrott guns now on the lines to Andersonville, and send on a section of Parker's battery to McClellanville.

RHETT,
Colonel.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

Major-General STEVENSON,

South Side of the River :

Have just received your note of 7 p. m. I had already given my general instructions to General Hampton, who parted from me about one hour since, to following effect: Hold the other side of river as long as practicable without endangering safety of the troops, then hold bridge-head long enough to save all wagons, artillery, &c.; then if forced back from there destroy a part of the bridge at both extremities; put guns in position on this side to command approach of the

bridge and to enfilade it. Construct works on this side to keep enemy's batteries as far from city as possible. The city must then be held as long as circumstances will permit to give time to our re-enforcements to arrive. When forced back retire toward Winnsborough.

I will see you in the morning.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 15, 1865.*

Maj. N. W. SMITH,

Chief Inspector Field Transportation :

MAJOR: I wish to place 1,000 or 1,500 men on the Edgefield plank road, about ten miles from the city, to guard approach in that direction. It will be impossible to do so without wagons for supplies and baggage. What can you do toward supplying Stewart's corps so that it may move as soon as concentrated?

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 15, 1865.

Major-General WALTHALL:

GENERAL: You will take charge of the troops at Graniteville and Bath. A regiment with two pieces of artillery should be at the latter place. Major Hamilton was directed to send you a battery. Colonel Hannon's brigade, with the exception of 100 men, is ordered off to-morrow. The force left is directed to watch your front and to report to you for orders.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 15, 1865.*

Captain HAZZARD:

If you can be useful in harassing the Yankees and stopping marauding remain until the 20th. I wish you by all means to keep us constantly apprised of any movement of the Yankees this way by the plank road from Edgefield.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 15, 1865—9 p. m.*

Major-General CHEATHAM:

GENERAL: I send you dispatch with translation. Walthall will follow you to-morrow. As he has no cavalry, that with you ought to cover his flank also, if possible.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 15, 1865—7.15 a. m.*

General WHEELER :

GENERAL : I think your best movement would be to get in front of the Yankees and delay their movement upon Columbia.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

FEBRUARY 15, 1865—2 p. m.

Colonel GRIGSBY (of General Wheeler's staff),
Boozier's House :

COLONEL : Major-General Hampton directs me to say that he is instructed by General Beauregard to notify Generals Wheeler, Cheatham, and Stewart, when in his opinion the emergency requires that the troops at or near Augusta should move to Columbia. Notice has been sent by General Hampton, in General Beauregard's name, and also by General Stevenson, urging the movement of all the available force at or near Augusta to co-operate with the troops under General Stevenson and General Hampton, operating now near Columbia. General Hampton desires me to say that the enemy are pressing heavily on General Stevenson's line, on the State road from Orangeburg to Columbia, and are also threatening the positions of General Stevenson's right, which is at present only defended by cavalry, on Congaree Creek. A column of infantry and cavalry is also reported moving on the road leading from Orangeburg to Lexington. General Hampton thinks that the most urgent necessity exists for the most rapid movement possible of Generals Wheeler, Cheatham, and Stewart's commands to accomplish a junction with the troops now defending Columbia. He desires General Wheeler to communicate this to Generals Cheatham and Stewart or their representatives in command. A vigorous attack by their troops in flank and rear of the enemy, even after they cross Congaree Creek, would relieve Columbia and enable us to hold the line of the Congaree. General Hampton urges General Wheeler to push on and re-enforce the picket-line of Butler's division, now extended on Congaree Creek. In case the enemy succeed in driving our lines in, so as to interrupt the road from Edgefield to Columbia, General Butler has been ordered to take up the line of the Saluda. At present, however, it is hoped that the line of the Congaree Creek, four miles below Columbia, will be held until the troops from Augusta arrive.

Respectfully,

THEODORE G. BARKER,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

A courier just in reports the enemy has crossed at Strickland's, on the Orangeburg and Lexington road, advancing rapidly.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 15, 1865—8 p. m.

Major-General WHEELER :

GENERAL : I am directed by General Beauregard to say that he wishes you to move to Columbia at once. The bearer will also explain the wishes of the general in other particulars.

Very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CREWS' CAVALRY BRIGADE,
February 15, 1865.

Capt. B. A. TERRETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have just been ordered by General Hill to report to General Cheatham on the Graniteville and Bethlehem roads. Colonel Hannon is at this time relieving my command.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. C. CREWS,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 15, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

General IVERSON:

Send down Lewis' brigade to Augusta to-day. You may remain in person to see General Ferguson and explain matters to him. You can at once recall the pickets at the different bridges and let them come down to-night.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 15, 1865.

General FERGUSON,
Green's Cut:

GENERAL: You will remain for the present on Brier Creek and will relieve all the pickets and scouts of Lewis' brigade. Keep a small party on the Savannah as low as Stony Bluff to give notice of Yankee movements and to resist as far as practicable a crossing to the Georgia side. You will try to arrest stragglers and deserters either by keeping scouting parties on the roads leading to the upper bridges or by keeping pickets at these bridges. A line of pickets or scouts must cover and protect the telegraph wires to Millen. Your own headquarters should be near Green's Cut, near telegraph office, and the bulk of your command be kept there ready to move at a moment's notice.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

P. S.—General Iverson has been instructed to remain in person until he has given you all the requisite information in regard to the country, picket-line, &c.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 15, 1865.

Colonel HANNON,
Aiken:

COLONEL: You will leave from 75 to 100 men under a first-rate officer to picket in front of Aiken. The officer will report to Major-General Walthall, at Graniteville, and will also report by courier and telegraph to me all important movements of the Yankees. You will

move at daylight to-morrow with the remainder of your command to Treadway Post-Office, on Upper Three Runs, and there report to Major General Young of the cavalry and be subject to his orders. You will take with you two days' rations for man and horse.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 15, 1865.

Brig. Gen. LOUIS HÉBERT,
Chief Engineer:

GENERAL: In reply to your letter of the 14th instant, covering a copy of the report of Captain Liernur, engineer, the major-general commanding directs me to say that it is not necessary to lay a pontoon bridge at the Hilton Ferry crossing of the Northeast River. He desires that all available flats will be collected, and with a steamer be held ready to transfer the forces now at Fort Anderson to this bank of the river, should the necessity arise.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 6 [16?], 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

Your telegrams of yesterday received. You can better judge of the necessity for evacuating Charleston than I can. Such full preparations had been made that I had hoped for other and better results, and the disappointment is to me extremely bitter. The re-enforcements calculated on from reserves and militia of Georgia and South Carolina, together with the troops ordered from Mississippi, must have fallen much short of estimate. What can be done with the naval squadron, the torpedo boats, and your valuable heavy guns at Charleston? Do not allow cotton stored there to become prize of the enemy, as was the case at Savannah. From reverse, however sad, if you are sustained by unity and determination among the people, we can look hopefully forward. I suppose General Lee has communicated with you directly. Your promised notes of conference will be anxiously looked for.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 16, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

If there be danger at Columbia take the promptest and most efficient measures to save the machinery at the armory.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 16, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Columbia, S. C.:*

Our necessities here are great. Why interfere with provisions at Charlotte Junction, ordered here by Commissary-General? Unless your necessities are very great they should be sent here.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865—2 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

I returned last evening from Charleston. I shall assume command to-day of all forces in South Carolina. The present military situation is thus: Our forces, about 20,000 effective infantry and artillery, more or less demoralized, occupy a circumference of about 240 miles from Charleston to Augusta. The enemy, well organized and disciplined, and flushed with success, numbering nearly double our force, is concentrated upon one point (Columbia) of that circumference. Unless I can concentrate rapidly here, or in my rear, all available troops, the result cannot be long doubtful. General Hardee still hesitates to abandon Charleston, notwithstanding I have repeatedly urged him to do so, thereby losing several days of vital importance to future operations.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

Enemy commenced shelling the city this morning. He is apparently moving up toward Saluda River. Our forces occupy south bank of that stream and Congaree.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865—6 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

Enemy has forced a passage across the Saluda River above Columbia. I will endeavor to prevent him from crossing the Broad, but my forces here are so small it is doubtful whether I can prevent it. Columbia will soon have to be evacuated.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

(Same to General Hardee.)

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

General Pillow, at Montgomery, tenders his services to fill up ranks of Army of Tennessee, if Government will give him control of that branch of service west of Savannah River, subject to my orders. Assistants could be furnished him from best of supernumerary officers. I approve his proposition. It is of highest importance to collect at once all stragglers and absentees from army.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MONTGOMERY, *February 16, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Will move office to Macon to-morrow.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 16, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

The wagon trains of Cheatham and Lee have been communicated with and will proceed by land, according to original orders. Route unchanged. The army trains, fifty wagons, will proceed by land, via Columbus, instead of West Point; all to pass through Macon. Similar orders have been left for Stewart's train.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., February 16, 1865.

Col. E. E. PORTLOCK,
Assistant Inspector-General:

COLONEL: Representations have been made from so many quarters prejudicial to the character of Wheeler's cavalry as to make it desirable that an examination should be made respecting their foundation, as, if true, they are calculated (as they have been said to have done) to produce disaffection amongst the people and to bring reproach upon our arms. Whilst so constantly engaged in front of the enemy, it is impossible to make a regular inspection, but by visiting their camps and observing their management and the degree of discipline exercised, and in passing over the country through which they have operated you can learn enough to be able to report advisedly. With large bodies of troops, especially cavalry, there must occur some irregularities, growing out of straggling, but where the latter prevails to an extent which impairs the efficiency of a command, and depredations or outrages are committed indiscriminately, it is sufficient grounds upon which to suspect inefficiency. See what system is pursued to prevent straggling; what punishments, if any, have been inflicted for irregularities, and what means are adopted to supply men and animals of his command. See and examine the inspectors upon this subject, report facts coming under your observation, or where complaints are made let them be substantiated by the proper affidavits or certificates. Abuses which can be corrected by the commanding general report to him for correction, advising this office of that fact. In fact, colonel, your mission is to report abuses wherever found, and to correct them in so far as can be done through department commanders, with whom you will communicate upon all points over which their authority extends. As nothing of an official character has been reported respecting the cavalry referred to, you will consider the rumors herein reported as merely designed to direct your attention to alleged abuses, and, found incorrect, to disabuse

by a report of facts the impressions at present prevailing. Of course the remarks and instructions are confidential, your order for the inspection being sufficient to secure you the necessary facilities.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

By direction of the Adjutant and Inspector General, your accounts for personal expenses, &c., upon being certified to by yourself, will be paid by any quartermaster without being referred to this office for approval.

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 No. 39. *Richmond, February 16, 1865.*

* * * * * *
 XXII. While on the way to Florida (as directed in paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 29, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, series of 1865), Col. E. E. Portlock, jr., will make such inspection as is practicable of the cavalry under Major-General Wheeler, and of the reported depredations committed by that command while on the march. The quartermaster's department will, upon application, furnish him the necessary transportation to execute this order.

* * * * * *
 XXVI. Brig. Gen. N. G. Evans, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty in Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and will report to General G. T. Beauregard, commanding, &c.

* * * * * *
 XXXIII. Brig. Gen. E. M. Law, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty and will report for orders to General Braxton Bragg, Wilmington, N. C.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE WEST,
 No. 1. *Columbia, S. C., February 16, 1865.*

By order of the President, I assume command of all the troops operating in the State of South Carolina. Lieutenant-Generals Hardee and Hampton and Major-Generals Stevenson and Wheeler will report direct to these headquarters.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHARLESTON, February 16, 1865.

(Received 3.50 a. m. 17th.)

His Excellency President DAVIS:

The following dispatch received to-day from General Beauregard:

Dispatch of to-day received, containing President's dispatch. I have far from sufficient force to hold the enemy in check in the field. He is at this moment investing Columbia with his four corps (as reported) on the south side of Congaree. Hence I see no good reason for deviating from the plan already decided upon; on the contrary, I urge its immediate execution.

W. J. HARDEE.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 16, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Your telegram from Columbia received. On receipt of your dispatch yesterday from Florence, preparations been again pushed forward. The movement will begin to-day, and be carried out without delay.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 16, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

General Hardee has been sick in bed for two days, threatened with typhoid fever. His surgeon says he must be sent off to-morrow. I have telegraphed General McLaws, who is the next in rank, to come to Charleston and take command.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 16, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

General Hardee has been sick in bed for two days, and must be sent off to-morrow. He desires you to turn over your command, your instructions, and your staff to the next in rank, and come here at once to take command. Have you an engine that you can come down on? Otherwise, I will send you one.

T. B. ROY.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Morning report of Harrison's Brigade, commanded by Col. George P. Harrison.

Commands.	Present for duty.		Present.	
	Total.	Aggregate.	Total.	Aggregate.
5th Georgia Regiment (Daniel)	180	205	259	290
32d Georgia Regiment (Bacon)	242	256	310	328
47th Georgia Regiment (Connor)	155	169	191	206
1st South Carolina Cavalry (dismounted) (Trezevant)	40	43	40	49
Grand total	617	673	806	873

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

TWO MILES AND A HALF FROM DEAN'S BRIDGE,
February 16, 1865.

BATTERY BEE,
February 16, 1865—1 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City:

The following dispatch has been received from Andersonville:

The number of the fleet remains the same at 12 this noon as at 11.10 last p. m. Two barges were quite busy sounding in front of Palmetto Point. One came in quite

near the shore, but a party of six men fired on her. She moved off. During the time they were sounding signaling was kept up between barges and a tug. Their distance about one mile from shore.

Dispatch from Graham's just received says that a barge has been moving about mouth of creek also engaged in sounding. One of the steamers has just gone up to mouth of creek.

Respectfully,

M. J. KIRK,
Captain.

BATTERY MARSHALL,
February 16, 1865—2.20 p. m.

SIGNAL OPERATOR,
Palmetto Battery:

Be ready to move at a moment's notice. Save all the most valuable Government property. Orders and messages burnt.

METARD,
Sergeant.

BATTERY MARSHALL,
February 16, 1865—2.45 p. m.

SIGNAL OPERATOR,
Palmetto Battery:

Keep an extraordinary good watch on G——. Destroy all papers. Keep none.

METARD,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. B. F. CHEATHAM,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs me to say that, as the enemy now occupies a position between his forces and those under yourself, he deems it best that you move to the Greenville railroad at the nearest point, and, if forced by the enemy, take cars with your command to Abbeville and await further orders, reporting to these headquarters your arrival and the condition of your command. You will also report to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill your movements, that Lieutenant-General Stewart may be kept advised.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTÉY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 16, 1865—10.30 p. m.*

General WALTHALL:

GENERAL: I am sorry that the wagons were not sent out as ordered last night. This may delay your movement until to-morrow, and then your march so far in rear of Cheatham will be hazardous. You ought to get as near him as possible. General Young, with a strong cavalry

force, is ordered to cover your movement. He will not reach Graniteville till night. Our information to-day by courier-line, not official, is that the Yankees occupy Lexington. You had better, then, march by Banskett's Mill to Ridge Post-Office and halt there, if your information is such as to make it dangerous to go beyond. There is still a route open to Columbia from Ridge Post-Office by Germanville and Lee's Ferry on Saluda River.

Respectfully, &c.,

D. H. HILL.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 16, 1865.*

General WADE HAMPTON,
Columbia, S. C.:

It gives me pleasure to inform you that the Senate yesterday confirmed my nomination of you to be lieutenant-general. As you were not advised of the nomination you may not have anticipated such action, but will understand it as an expression of my appreciation of your past services and confidence in your ability and future usefulness. You have my best wishes for you personally, and highest hopes of you officially.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865—3 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Present:

I regret to hear the enemy has crossed the Saluda. Endeavor by all means to prevent him from crossing the Broad. Burn the bridge should it become necessary. Send a messenger to Generals Cheatham and Hill to inform them of the present state of affairs.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865.*

Maj. JOHN G. STOKES,
Spotswood Hotel, Richmond, Va.:

Hampton will apply. Stay until you hear from the papers or from me. Enemy in front of Columbia. Hope to hold it.

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 17, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

Two trains belonging to the State of Georgia have been impressed to remove stores from Charleston. Georgia has cotton on the road. Return the trains to her agent unless they are employed for the removal of troops, ordnance, or other Confederate property of more importance than cotton, and return them as early as practicable in any event.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 17, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

GENERAL: My last dispatches of the 15th were returned by courier, but reforwarded yesterday with instructions to cross the Saluda and go down the north bank. Cheatham encamped last night at Norris' Store and designed moving to-day toward the left to Mount Willing and thence to Lee's Ferry. Walthall, with Stewart's corps, left yesterday, accompanied by Crews. General Stewart has not yet come up. The artillery is coming on slowly. The troops having passed General Hill is desirous of leaving. This was contemplated by you in your instructions. But should the enemy occupy Columbia and the army falls back toward the Savannah I deem it better for him to remain here. I have sent officers to Washington and Abbeville to see about stores and the pontoon bridge. Be good enough to give me further instructions about General Hill and my own movements.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Col. G. W. BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs me to inform you that we leave here this morning, retreating in the direction of Charlotte, N. C. Chesterville, S. C., is the first point of concentration, and if it cannot be accomplished there, then Charlotte, N. C. Every inch of ground will be contested, and it is hoped Cheatham and Stewart may reach Charlotte at least in time to join us. Let the orders for Cheatham and Stewart to join us remain in force and be executed with the least delay practicable, by the best and shortest routes, according to existing circumstances. The following routes might be followed by troops and trains moving to Charlotte, or Chesterville, according to circumstances:

First. Augusta, Edgefield, Newberry, and Chesterville. That portion of the route from Newberry to Chesterville may be unsafe should the enemy advance northward from his present position, extending along Broad River from Columbia toward Alston. It is not yet known how near he is to the latter place.

Second. Augusta, Edgefield, Ninety-six Depot, on the Greenville and Columbia Railroad; Huntsville, on the Laurensville and Newberry Railroad; Unionville and Chesterville.

Third. Route, Washington, Abbeville, Laurensville, Unionville, and Chesterville.

Should the concentration have to be made north of Chesterville, from Laurensville, the troops should move on to Spartansburg, thence to Yorkville or Shelby, N. C., thence to Charlotte. Provisions and forage should be collected in advance, at proper points on any of the routes indicated which may be selected or adopted. Working parties should be sent in advance to repair roads and bridges, or construct bridges when required. A detachment of cavalry should accompany each

column of troops, or each wagon train moving as above referred to. The troops and trains should not be sent in small detachments, but should move regularly, as much as circumstances will permit.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ELEVEN MILES FROM COLUMBIA, *February 17, 1865—2 p. m.*
Captain SHARP,
Assistant Quartermaster, Ridgeway, S. C.:

General Beauregard directs that an engine be sent to this point as soon as possible to take forward the train with ladies, stores, &c., left here this morning. If Captain Sharp is not at Ridgeway this order must be communicated by telegraph to the nearest officer or railroad agent controlling transportation.

By command of General Beauregard:

A. R. CHISOLM,
Aide-de-Camp.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 17, 1865.*
His Excellency Governor MAGRATH,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

Please send some reliable person to Alston to ascertain the truthfulness of the reports from that place and communicate. General Wheeler is on the direct road from Columbia to Winnsborough. You can communicate with him.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 17, 1865.
Lieut. Col. G. A. HENRY, *Assistant Inspector-General:*

COLONEL: General Beauregard directs you send an inspector to Barnett and Washington to inspect the condition of the road between those points and ascertain the progress made in its repair. He will look also closely into the manner in which public property is taken care of at those points. Five days' rations for 15,000 men were ordered to be stored at Washington. The condition of the road may have prevented the strict execution of this order by storing them at Barnett. He will see if they are at Barnett. From Washington he will proceed to Abbeville, S. C., examining the road to ascertain its condition and what progress is being made in its repair. He will also inquire whether any depots have been established along that route for gathering and concentrating of the tithe due from the tax in kind. A pontoon bridge has been directed to be thrown across the Savannah at the most eligible point on this road. It is desirable to know what steps have been taken in the execution of this order by Major McCrady, of Augusta, who was charged with this duty. At Abbeville, S. C., ten days' rations were ordered for 15,000 men. At Washington and Abbeville he will obtain a roster of the post officers, and observe whether they are competent and efficient.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 17, 1865.

Maj. N. W. SMITH,
Inspector of Field Transportation:

MAJOR: I am instructed to say that General Beauregard does not approve of the contracts made by Major Bryan for the carriage of private freight in Government wagons between Mayfield and Midway. Independently of the consideration of its irregularity, it is improper and injudicious, from the fact that, as our transportation is limited, it is necessary to preserve our teams, and they should not be worn out by hauling heavy private property. It not only exhausts them but it retards the public business. Moreover, our sick and wounded furloughed men returning to their homes should be entitled to the benefit of such transportation. General Beauregard has, in view of these considerations, given orders that all private freight be in future thrown out of the Government wagons, and he requests that you will instruct Major Bryan to recall and annul the contracts made by him.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 17, 1865.*
(Received 6.20 19th.)

General S. COOPER:

General Hardee has been sick for some days and was sent off by his surgeon to-day. Maj. Gen. L. McLaws, the next in rank, will be here to take command this evening.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Seven Miles from Columbia, on Rice's Creek Spring Road,
February 17, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. W. HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: General Beauregard wishes you to inform General Stevenson that, in view of the danger of the enemy crossing Broad River above Wheeler's right, it is deemed best that Stevenson and his command should reach Cookham to-night, between Big Cedar and Little Cedar Creek, and his train the vicinity of Ridgeway, if possible. Cookham is about eighteen miles from Columbia; Ridgeway about twenty-five miles. The cavalry will necessarily follow its movements. Delay the enemy as much as possible. I will await at Killian's Station to hear from you. The general wishes you to keep him advised of the enemy's movements.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOS. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps :

GENERAL: I am directed by General Beauregard to inform you that on leaving the city he will take the common road along the railroad to Winnsborough, expecting to stop, until further orders, at the Rice Spring road, about twelve miles from here.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALB. FERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FEBRUARY 17, 1865—8.20 a. m.

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: When General Stevenson withdraws he will move over to the Charlotte railroad. You will cover his left by taking care of the direct Winnsborough road. Keep one portion of your command in front of the enemy as he advances on the town and try to check him on this the Broad River road. I will be at Killian's Mill (Ford's Mill) to-night.

Very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLOTTE RAILROAD, February 17, 1865—12.25 p. m.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Corps :

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 11.15 a. m. just received. Everything is now clear, and you can move in the direction indicated. Communicate, if possible, with General Humes and the other troops beyond him. Picket the road you withdraw on, and cover the Winnsborough road by keeping a brigade on it. It is important to ascertain if there is any movement in direction of Winnsborough, or up the river. Can you locate the cavalry of the enemy? Send scouts to gain all the information possible. Communicate with me at Killian's Mill.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 17, 1865—7.45 [a. m.]

General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry :

The enemy have crossed the river to an island formed by the river and a slough in our front. They will soon effect a crossing to the mainland. Please have some cavalry to cover any movement to the rear that it may be necessary for me to make.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C L STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, February 17, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

In obedience to orders received from Major-General Wheeler, I respectfully submit the following report in regard to the failure to burn the bridge across the Congaree Creek: The enemy advancing upon the State road in heavy force drove Colonel Breckinridge back to the forks of the road just beyond the creek, where he was joined by Colonel McLemore, and temporary breast-works made of rails. The infantry picketing at the creek had partially prepared the bridge for burning; the bridge being very wet, covered with mud and it still raining, I believed the bridge would not burn and therefore ordered Captain Wright to prepare it, by piling on more rails and making every preparation he could. In the meantime Major-General Butler, to whom I was reporting, came upon the field, and expressed his opinion that we could hold the bridge against any force that would come against it. He further directed that if the enemy crossed above or below, we must concentrate against him and still hold the position across the creek. Finding the enemy was concentrating in heavy force upon each flank, I requested General Butler to let me retire across the bridge so that I could effectually destroy it. This request was made more than an hour before we were driven across the bridge, and no answer was received to this request until after we were driven back. As soon as we were driven across the bridge it was set on fire. Our men retired to the earth-works, and the enemy kept away from the bridge until all the rails, &c., upon it had burned up, and until the enemy had effected a crossing elsewhere, and the infantry supporting our left had been withdrawn. The enemy kept up such a heavy fire with small-arms and artillery upon the bridge after we retired, that we could not cut it down without great loss of life. Had I been allowed to retire when I requested it, my intention was to cut the bridge down. I feel that I am not responsible for the failure to destroy the bridge and know that the officers and men under my command are not. They displayed great gallantry in defending the bridge for five or six hours, under constant fire.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 17, 1865—9.30 p. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Lieutenant Chapin has just arrived from Hughey's Ferry, thirty-one miles from Columbia, and reports General Humes crossing his command at that point, but thinks he will not be able to get all across to-day. General Humes' spoke of sending the Second Kentucky Regiment twelve miles below Hughey's Ferry, where it could cross.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
*February 17, 1865.*Major-General YOUNG,
Aiken, S. C.:

GENERAL: Colonel Hannon reports no enemy at Williston. It seems to me, then, that you had better unite Crews, now at Leesville, with you and harass Sherman's rear on the Congaree or make a push for Barnwell Court-House, and get all his hospitals, depots, &c., on the north side of the river. Inform me by letter, and not by telegraph, what route you take. I need not hint to so prompt a soldier as yourself the necessity of dispatch. Should Sherman take Kingstree, Hardee can only get out by way of Orangeburg, and it may be best for you to strike for that point. I leave the matter entirely to you as you must be better informed than myself as to position of the Yankees. Please telegraph to me the receipt of this dispatch as courier-line is uncertain.

Respectfully and truly, your obedient servant,

D. H. HILL,
*Major-General.*RICHMOND, *February 17, 1865.*

Maj. F. S. PARKER:

Will leave this evening and stop one day in Raleigh.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 17, 1865.*General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

General Schofield with part of his corps is now at Morehead City; the rest expected. Their design is against Goldsborough, and perhaps Greensborough in connection with Sherman. I have in my possession an order from Schofield to Terry. They have been demonstrating against me for four or five days.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Major PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp:

Send above dispatch to General Lee, putting those letters under-scored in cipher if you have a signal officer who understands it. Let it go at once.

Respectfully, yours,

R. F. HOKE,
*Major-General.*HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Wilmington, February 17, 1865.*Col. GEORGE JACKSON,
Commanding Post:

COLONEL: It has been represented that a quantity of tobacco and naval stores are stored in the city. The major-general commanding directs that immediate measures be taken for the removal of the latter,

and so much of the tobacco as may not be required by the commissary of subsistence for issue to the troops at this point. Transportation will be furnished by the quartermaster's department upon requisition.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 17, 1865.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON,
Commanding Post:

COLONEL: Captain Grainger's presence about the railroads is now so necessary from the increased demands for transportation as to render it impossible for his attendance with the guard to the removal of cotton secreted in the city. Until further orders, the major-general commanding desires that you will assign Captain Toomer, assistant quartermaster of your command, to the duty of removing the cotton to the depots. Captain Huggins will furnish all necessary wagons.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 17, 1865.*
(Received 6.30 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

The enemy have Columbia, and reported on this side. It is dangerous to keep the Federal officers here.

WM. J. HOKE,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

CHARLOTTE, *February 17, 1865.*
(Received 18th.)

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Wilmington:

The enemy hold Columbia. Arrangements should be made to hold Charlotte.

W. J. HOKE,
Colonel, Commanding.

CHARLOTTE, *February 17, 1865.*
(Received 18th.)

Major-General HOKE,
Wilmington:

I am ordered to ship all stores from this place. Give me all the transportation that can be sent.

W. J. HOKE,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 17, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE,
Wilmington:

One brigade of Seventeenth Army Corps, Thomas' army, arrived at New Berne Tuesday. They have a pontoon train. Scouts report the whole corps coming.

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Taliaferro is preferable to McLaws, but he is ranked by the latter and Major-General Wright.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 41.

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, February 18, 1865.

* * * * *

XXIX. Col. John B. Sale, assistant adjutant-general, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty with General Braxton Bragg, commanding, &c., Wilmington, N. C., and will report accordingly.

* * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 18, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

GENERAL: I inclose you telegram from General Taylor as to the enemy's movements in his department. All is quiet in our immediate front, no enemy being reported within twenty miles of Aiken. We have no advices from the east, as to the condition of affairs in front of Columbia. Storrs' battalion of artillery has arrived; Johnston's is daily expected. General Young will move this evening toward Orangeburg, and endeavor to feel the enemy's rear. Headquarters were removed yesterday from Montgomery to Macon. Nearly all of General Hood's staff have reached here. I have placed all the inspectors on duty, having need for them, also the chief quartermaster and assistant commissary. The remainder will remain here for further orders, except Major Moore, chief commissary. He desires a leave of absence to visit Richmond, which I declined granting him, and directed him to report to you as soon as practicable. He is a most valuable and efficient officer. I do not think he has his equal, and as I do not know your wishes, I have directed him to you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

MERIDIAN, *February 17, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Your telegrams of yesterday received. Cotton matters at Mobile fully attended to long since. Thomas, with bulk of his army, has landed at Vicksburg, and moved out four miles east of there with pontoon train. Enemy concentrating at Pensacola. Think he will probably move simultaneously from Vicksburg, Pensacola, and Decatur.

R. TAYLOR,

*Lieutenant-General.*RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

General L. McLAWS,

Charleston, S. C.:

Columbia was evacuated yesterday. Hampton's cavalry is still near the city. The future intentions of the enemy are not yet developed. Carry out my instructions to General Hardee as rapidly as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

General McLAWS,

Charleston, S. C.:

General Gorgas suggests that the navy hold the forts and the citizens the lines, that the enemy may be delayed as long as possible and concentration be effected. General Lee and myself approve his suggestion and recommend its adoption.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS,

Charleston, S. C.:

The Secretary of War telegraphed that the two trains belonging to the State of Georgia impressed for Government purposes be released and returned to the State agent, unless they are employed in moving troops or other Government stores less important than cotton, as the State of Georgia has cotton on the road.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. L. McLAWS,

Charleston, S. C.:

Be careful in retiring to destroy all bridges and trestles between Branchville and Charleston and Charleston and the Santee, inclusive.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. L. McLAWS,

Charleston, S. C.:

Movements of enemy indicate that the junction of our forces cannot take place south of Charlotte, N. C. You will, therefore, carry out the

instructions to that effect left with General Hardee, moving by rail to Cheraw all the infantry and artillery which can thus be transported. Your wagon train and surplus artillery should move as light as possible to the same point, whence they will move, properly guarded, with all the supplies they can carry to Charlotte, N. C. The troops should move from Cheraw to Charlotte with five days' rations and a full supply of ammunition. Not a moment should be lost in the execution of these orders.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 18, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding District of Georgia:

GENERAL: There are large numbers of officers and men in this city absent from their commands. They excuse themselves by saying they do not know where their commands are, and when informed, reply they cannot walk there. A camp of direction should be established at some suitable point for the concentration of these absentees, and there kept until they be sent to their proper commands. All such should be kept out of the city. Be good enough to call the attention of Brigadier-General Fry to this matter.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 18, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

GENERAL: In accordance with your verbal instruction, I will leave here on Wednesday next unless otherwise ordered before that time.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 18, 1865.

Capt. William Stanley will proceed to inspect all the cavalry on the waters of the Ogeechee and Altamaha. He will report their strength, condition of men, horses and wagons, efficiency of the command, and especially of commanding officers, state of discipline, and in fine will make a complete and faithful exhibit of the military and moral status of the cavalry in the regions above designated. He will instruct the cavalry that it is not expected of them to lie idle in camp, but to be constantly engaged in harassing the enemy, protecting the country, and clearing it of disloyal men.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

DOKO, *February 18, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

GENERAL: As Sherman marches in so extended a manner it has occurred to me that we might concentrate on one of his corps and

destroy it. At present the Fifteenth Corps is on the Winnsborough road, the Seventeenth on the railroad, and the other two, I suppose, across the Broad River. The country between the two corps here is rough and inaccessible, so that if we could concentrate in front of the Seventeenth Corps we might defeat it before support could reach it. All the cavalry with the infantry could, I think, defeat one corps. I think that you might get some troops from Charleston, if they were sent by rail at once to Camden. The road to Camden, as you are aware, turns off from the Wilmington railroad seven miles beyond Kingsville. Now, if troops could come up to the junction of the Camden and Wilmington road, they could hold the crossings of the Wateree till you could get re-enforcements to them. The swamp is very wide and very difficult, even in the best weather, so that a small body of troops could check a much larger one. I could send some cavalry to aid if necessary. If Sherman comes this way you will be able to get some of your troops by Camden to the line of our march. If, on the contrary, he moves on Charleston the troops at the Wateree would be in the proper position. O'neatham, too, can now join us, if you send telling him to make forced marches. With a few thousand more men we can cripple Sherman greatly.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
On Crane Creek, Six Miles from Columbia,
February 18, 1865—1.20 p. m.

Capt. ALB. FERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have just learned from a source not thoroughly reliable that the enemy have moved up a force on the other side of the river. I shall know in a short time definitely about it from scouts sent over the river yesterday. In the meantime I have ordered General Allen to picket Broad River up as far as Little River and General Humes to picket it from Little River to Hughey's Ferry (General Humes crossed at Hughey's Ferry yesterday). It seems to me there is no object in burning the railroad bridge at Alston, as it would be no source of delay to the enemy and we shall need it after the enemy have passed on. I cannot see that the enemy can use that bridge for railroad purposes. They can put down pontoons quicker than they can floor the bridge to take over wagons and horses. Shall the bridge be burned? The enemy's pickets in my front to-night are about two miles from the State House, placed there about dark.

Respectfully, captain, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 18, 1865—7.25 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to forward a report from Captain Vason, just received. General Anderson is encamped between Nipper's and Cedar Creeks and Colonel Hagan near Frost's house, both

on this road. So soon as an answer is received to a communication forwarded to-night, asking if it would not be advisable to order my wagon train moved from where it is now, I think it would be better to send from this road the wagons that are with the brigades. The country between this and the Winnsborough road, being very broken, and there being only one or two roads by which the latter could be reached, I would respectfully ask if it would not be advisable, in view of these facts, to have Colonel Hagan to move his command back to-night or early in the morning. Situated as he is, there might be difficulty in his reaching the Winnsborough road, should the enemy advance rapidly to-morrow morning. The scout that captured the two prisoners of the Fourteenth Corps, U. S. Army, this afternoon, thought that this corps might intend moving toward Winnsborough from Freshly's Ferry. The prisoners were captured upward of a mile east of the Monticello road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 18, 1865. (Received 19th.)

General BRAGG,
Raleigh:

General Baker's scouts exaggerate enemy's force. Get what troops you can together and strike him in the most vulnerable point you can. Cut the railroad behind him and collect all the State troops.

R. E. LEE.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 18, 1865.*

General BRAGG:
(Care Governor Vance.)

Scouts just arrived report General Foster with very large force at New Berne. Two brigades recently arrived; one brigade on Thursday. Scouts think that enemy will move about middle of next week.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

(GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 18, 1865—6.50 p. m.*

General BRAGG:
(Care Governor Vance.)

Scouts report Foster in New Berne with large force and forty pieces artillery. Think he will move on Kinston to-morrow. Raiding party, 500; 1,000 with artillery moving on Greenville and Tarborough. One regiment negroes and 400 Irishmen to work on railroad; also a force of marines with torpedo-boats to come up the river. They have taken up torpedoes in river above New Berne to run boats as far up river as possible, I suppose.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Governor MAGRATH,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

General Butler reports enemy advancing on Killian's Mill. I will probably be in Winnsborough to-morrow.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Governor ISHAM G. HARRIS,
Care of Governor Magrath,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

Can you give any information of Cheatham's movements and the burning about Alston?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 18, 1865.

Maj. N. W. SMITH,
Chief Quartermaster, Field Transportation:

MAJOR: In reply to your communication of the 17th instant in relation to the wagon train between Mayfield and Midway, I have the honor to state that Maj. P. B. Lee, assistant inspector-general, was the officer selected to carry out the instructions of General Beauregard. In view of your request that the wagon train might be placed under the charge of some other quartermaster, and the recommendation of Maj. W. F. Ayer, chief quartermaster, Army of Tennessee, you will make the necessary arrangements with him for its transfer to the chief quartermaster of the army.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Captain SHARP,
Assistant Quartermaster, Winnsborough, S. C.:

Major Trout has been ordered to send here 15,000 rations. He is at Chesterville and wants transportation. Please see to it at once. Trout wants an engine.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Major TROUT,
Chesterville, S. C.:

Have telegraphed to Captain Sharp, but communicate with him and obtain the necessary transportation for the 15,000 rations.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 19, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

Reports from South Carolina induce me to suggest that you go to General Beauregard's headquarters for personal conference and observation as soon as the circumstances in your front will permit.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[FEBRUARY 19, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations in the Carolinas, see Part I, p. 1044.]

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865—12.45 p. m.*

(Received 5 p. m.)

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Four corps of enemy are reported advancing on this place from Columbia and Alston on Broad River, tearing up Charlotte railroad. This indicates his intention not to return by same route. He will probably be at Charlotte about the 24th, before my forces can concentrate there. He will doubtless move then on Greensborough, Danville, and Petersburg, or if short of supplies, on Raleigh and Weldon, where he will form a junction with Schofield.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[First indorsement.]

To the President, who is respectfully requested to return inclosures after reading them.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

[Second indorsement.]

It is not possible from the dispatches to understand what is being done to concentrate forces, and the rapidity with which the enemy is expected to move indicates little effort to delay or obstruct his progress. If we knew what was being done in front, on flank, or in rear of the enemy where our forces are, and on what lines they are moving, some suggestion might be made.

J. D.

WHITE OAK, S. C., *February 19, 1865—10 p. m.*

(Received 8.30 p. m. 20th.)

General R. E. LEE:

After close examination, and exerting every means in my power, I find it impossible for the troops now in Charleston to form a junction with me this side of Greensborough. Believing it best, from information just received from Governor Vance and General Bragg, to transport the troops by rail to that point, I have directed General McLaws to move them by rail as rapidly as possible. I am also of the opinion that Cheatham, at Newberry this morning with 2,000 men, and Stewart, eighteen hours behind him, with 1,200 men, cannot form a junction with me except by moving across via Statesburg and Manchester, and thence by rail to Greensborough. This movement will require some days, owing to difficulties of crossing the Broad and Wateree Rivers.

The enemy has advanced to-day to near Winnsborough in force, and is still moving along the railroad, keeping between this place and Broad River, thus cutting off Cheatham and Stewart.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 19, 1865.

Col. G. W. RAINS, *Commanding Arsenal:*

COLONEL: General Beauregard desires 1,000,000 rounds of small-arms ammunition and 2,500 of Napoleon sent to him near Columbia. Major Ayer, chief quartermaster, will furnish the wagons. An escort will leave here to-morrow and will guard the train.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MACON, GA., *February 19, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Arrived here last evening. Lee's corps wagon trains, in advance of the others, left Columbus yesterday by dirt road. I will order them to hasten through to Augusta. Furloughed troops still passing.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865—10.45 a. m.*

Capt. H. A. RAMSAY,
Chief Engineer, &c., Charlotte, N. C.:

I believe Cherryville less exposed than any place within reach of enemy's line of march, which will probably be Charlotte and Greensborough, N. C.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MONK'S CORNER,
February 19, 1865.

General S COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Charleston was successfully evacuated on the night of the 17th and morning of the 18th, and the troops are here marching to form a junction with General Beauregard.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 19, 1865.*

General L. McLAWS, *Charleston, S. C.:*

Orders for movement to Cheraw countermanded. Send infantry with due proportion of artillery by rail to Greensborough, N. C., as rapidly as possible. Call upon General Bragg and Governor Vance for all the assistance in their power. Not a moment must be lost in executing this order. Leave your cavalry to protect country north of Santee River.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
White Oak, 8 Miles north of Winnsborough, S. C., February 19, 1865.
 Lient. Gen. A. P. STEWART and
 Maj. Gen. B. F. CHEATHAM,

Commanding Corps:

GENERALS: General Beauregard directs that your two corps be concentrated as soon as possible, and, as it is now out of your power to form a junction with the troops on this side of Broad River, he directs that the corps, combined with the cavalry now with them, move as rapidly as possible by the best routes to Statesburg or Manchester, S. C., and thence by rail, via Florence, S. C., and Wilmington, to Greensborough, N. C. The commanding general would suggest that if the enemy has left Columbia, S. C., the corps move via that point, crossing the Wateree at Garner's or Starr's Ferry. Details should be sent forward to collect boats at the proper points of crossing and provisions along the line of march. Your artillery and wagon trains should also go by rail. You will not fail to communicate with these headquarters by telegraph immediately upon your arrival at the first telegraph station.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Received February 21, 1865, 8 p. m., at Mrs. Jones', one mile from Jones' Ferry, on Ennoree River, Newberry District, S. C.

JAS. D. PORTER, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865.*
 Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Doko or Ridgeway:

Have just arrived. Will be here for several hours. Have you any report from Wheeler or Butler?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865.*
 Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Doko or Ridgeway, S. C.:

Enemy are reported by General Humes at 10.30 a. m. to be ten miles from this place advancing. Be careful of your trains and Wheeler's. Communicate with General Wheeler.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865.*
 Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Doko or Ridgeway, S. C.:

As the intentions of the enemy are better developed from the fact that he is tearing up the railroad behind him, the destruction of cotton is deemed unnecessary.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865—1 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,

Doko or Ridgeway, S. C.:

Colonel Ashby reports enemy at 10.45 a. m. to be advancing in heavy force five miles below Bell's Mills, on the Columbia and Winnsborough road. Please communicate with General Wheeler.

JNO. M. OTEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865—1.15 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,

Doko or Ridgeway, S. C.:

I am just leaving here. You had better push on before communication is cut off. I shall stop at White Oak, with Stevenson's command.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,

White Oak, S. C., February 19, 1865—4.15 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. W. HAMPTON,

Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs me to inform you that the trains and infantry will turn off from this place, taking the road via Hazelwood and Rich Hill to Landsford, on the Catawba; thence they will move along the east bank of the Catawba to Blair; thence to Charlotte. He desires your cavalry to conform its movements accordingly, protecting the flanks and rear of the column. Thirty thousand rations are still at Chesterville; if not needed by you, let the order be given for their removal. Should the report of the advance of the enemy in this direction be confirmed, the trains and troops will leave here about daylight in the morning.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 19, 1865—11.45 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,

Winnsborough, S. C.:

Doctor Cameron, of Reynolds' brigade, and Private Cameron, of Company B, Fourth South Carolina Cavalry, report a brigade of the enemy's cavalry one mile and a quarter from Youngsville, on the Little River road, moving on Youngsville. General Beauregard directs me to inform you of it, and desires proper steps be taken to arrest their progress and destroy them, if possible.

JNO. M. OTEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Monticello Road, February 19, 1865—9.25 a. m.

First Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I am now moving with my command. Will go to the right of this road and get in front of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—The road I shall travel passes by Cedar Creek Post-Office and Brown's Post-Office.

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Monticello Road, February 19, 1865—9.50 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that scouts report the enemy (infantry) moving on a road which turns off from the Monticello road fifteen miles from Columbia and passes by Cedar Creek Post-Office and Brown's Post-Office, leading to Winnsborough. I will, therefore, take another road leading to the Winnsborough road. I will withdraw the regiment left behind on the Monticello road, in view of the fact that the enemy are moving toward Winnsborough.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 19, 1865—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I started this morning on a road turning out of the Columbia and Monticello road, fifteen miles from Columbia, and moving by Cedar Creek Post-Office and Brown's Post-Office, but my scouts having reported the enemy two miles ahead of me on that road I have turned across, and struck the Winnsborough and Columbia road, some fourteen or fifteen miles from Columbia (near Nelson's house). I shall move up on this road and ascertain with certainty whether the enemy is moving toward Winnsborough or Monticello, and get in front of him as directed in orders from General Wheeler last night. In obedience to instructions to withdraw the regiment left on the Columbia road in case the enemy should move toward Winnsborough, I have directed Colonel Hagan to withdraw it. There will consequently be nothing left on that road. The enemy, however, at last accounts had not advanced from Columbia on that road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

RALEIGH, *February 19, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

General Baker reports a strong raid moving on Weldon railroad at Rocky Mount and continued preparations for the move on Goldsborough and this place. Little or no assistance can be had from the State. Exemptions and reorganization under late law have disbanded the State force, and they will not be ready for some time. I go to Goldsborough to-night.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WHITE OAK, S. C., *February 19, 1865.*

General BRAGG, *Wilmington, N. C.:*

Have ordered McLaws to move as rapidly as possible by rail to Greensborough, N. C. Please communicate with him fully and aid him all in your power. Am obliged to you for your information.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

FLORENCE, *February 19, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

I am at this place en route for Wilmington with my command (about 400 men and officers) to be tendered you for battery service. Is Wilmington still intact? Please answer immediately to this place and to Marion Court-House.

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag Officer, C. S. Navy.

[Answer.]

Come on with your force.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 19, 1865.*
(Received 12.15 p. m.)

General BRAGG, *Goldsborough:*

General Hoke this morning established his force on line with obstructions. General Hagood at Town Creek. Enemy continue active.

FRANK PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 19, 1865.

General HOKE, *Wilmington:*

Can you ascertain Schofield's strength?

R. E. LEE.

RALEIGH, *February 19, 1865.*

General HOKE:

I shall leave for Goldsborough to-night. Advise me there if anything important. We can look for no assistance. Baker seems to think the raid now moving is formidable.

B. BRAGG.

BATTERY LEE,
February 19, 1865.

Major PARKER:

A number of enemy's boats advanced up the river; fourteen in sight of Battery Campbell. Opened upon them from Campbell only with Parrott and 32-pounder guns. After a few rounds from our battery boats retired

P. C. GAILLARD,
Colonel, Commanding.

UPPER TOWN CREEK BRIDGE,
February 19, 1865—9.45 a. m.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Inform General Hoke that my column is crossing Town Creek bridge and going into position. Colonel Lipscomb just heard from on road to upper bridge. We have brought off everything for field service, field batteries, &c. Loss slight. Enemy charged my picket-line in heavy skirmish force just as we were about withdrawing it a little before day, and had to retire fighting. The bridges of the canal were, however, burned and the sluices of Orton Pond cut. No pursuit beyond. Ask General Hoke for orders for me. This place needs much work if it is to be held for any length of time.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

RICHMOND, VA., February 20, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

The Secretary of War directs that you give orders to the local commanders for the removal of all supplies on Sherman's route, and that if they cannot be removed they be destroyed as soon as they become liable to capture.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

(Letter of same purport to Generals Holmes and Bragg, and commandants of posts at Yorkville and Chester, S. C., and Charlotte, Salisbury, and Greensborough, N. C.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, }	ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 42. }	Richmond, February 20, 1865.

* * * * * *

XXIII. Capt. J. C. Abrams, assistant commissary of subsistence, will proceed without delay to Charlotte, N. C., for the purpose of effecting the rapid removal to Virginia of the stores now accumulated at that point, and to make such arrangements as may be necessary for the collection of supplies. He will thence proceed to Greensborough, Raleigh, Weldon, Goldsborough, and Wilmington, and confer with the chief commissary and subordinate officers at the respective points, urge

the utmost activity in the collection and shipment of stores to Virginia, and impress upon all the necessity for prompt contributions to meet the wants of the troops dependent on the State of North Carolina.

* * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

There are so many roads in this section of country on which enemy can move toward Charlotte it is impossible with my small force of infantry to remove or destroy all supplies. Your instructions will, however, be carried out as far as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERVILLE, *February 20, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

General McLaws reports from Monk's Corner that Charleston was successfully evacuated on the night of the 17th instant. Enemy reported by General Wheeler to be advancing on this place, being six miles north of Monticello.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 20, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,

Chief of Engineer Bureau:

GENERAL: You will proceed with all dispatch to the headquarters of General Beauregard, with whom you will advise as to the movement of his forces, the roads most available to effect the earliest possible junction of his troops, which should be effected before a battle with the enemy is risked. You will also advise as to the various and most efficient means of delaying the enemy's march by obstructions and otherwise. You will keep the general advised as to the subjects discussed, movements of the troops, and all other matters of interest. You will show this letter to General Beauregard and convey to him the views this day expressed to you on the subject of the operations with which he is charged.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 20, 1865.

Captain BUCHANAN, *Engineers:*

CAPTAIN: General Beauregard directs that you will proceed at once to the point on the Savannah River, via Washington, Ga., where the road from Washington to Abbeville, S. C., crosses. A pontoon bridge has been ordered to be constructed at that or some eligible point near by. You will confer with the engineer in charge of the work and give

him such aid as you can. Neither flooring nor sleepers are coming on with the pontoon train. See that they are promptly and expeditiously made for sixty boats. After this duty shall have been discharged you will proceed without delay to make a thorough examination of the country and roads between Washington and Abbeville. You will call on the quartermaster at Washington for a horse and equipments. Should it be necessary he is authorized to impress them for your use temporarily. Should it be necessary to do so they will be first valued and certificate of same, setting forth all the facts, given to the owner.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 20, 1865.

General P. M. B. YOUNG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: An order has been received from General Beauregard requiring you to cover trains passing from this point to Newberry Court-House. Under this order you cannot cross the Congaree, but I think you may sweep up toward Columbia and then follow up the Saluda, covering the roads leading into the road between Augusta and McNary's Ferry. I regret the order, as I had hoped great things from your dash and enterprise, but it is my duty to apprise you of it. Keep me constantly apprised of your position, as well as of the movements of the Yankees.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

RALEIGH, *February 20, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

Your dispatches received. I will give General Bragg all the assistance in my power. Have called out every man liable to duty in the State. I can't destroy provisions without a force of cavalry.

Z. B. VANCE.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, Near White Oak, S. C., February 20, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Col. D. H. Hamilton, the bearer of this, has been directed to proceed to Raleigh, Wilmington, and Florence to communicate to yourself, Governor Vance, and Major-General McLaws my views upon the subject-matter of my telegram of the 19th instant. He will also inform you of the movements of Cheatham and Stewart, and I would respectfully request that you render him every assistance, that the troops under these officers may move promptly to the same point that the troops under Major-General McLaws have been ordered.

Respectfully and truly, your obedient servant,
 G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHESTERVILLE, *February 20, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Governor Vance and General Bragg are confident of being able to put your whole command at point designated in much shorter time than by dirt road. Reserve wagons and artillery might go to Cheraw by rail and thence by common road to Raleigh. Your sick had better be sent to Cheraw.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

KINGSTREE, *February 20, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

I am ordered by General Beauregard to Greensborough, N. C., via Wilmington. He directs me to call upon you for assistance and information. Will it be practicable for ten days to go by Wilmington, and what are the difficulties in passing Cape Fear River? Answer at once.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

KINGSTREE, S. C., *February 20, 1865.*

(Received 2.15 a. m. 21st.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Wilmington:

General Hoke states: "Assisted by a few* brigades from you we may succeed in forcing the passage of your forces by this point." If you need any assistance from me I will send you troops as soon as I can get trains. Answer.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Charlotte, February 20, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

I am shipping stores from this post as fast as I can get the transportation for them. Unless the enemy is checked much stores will be lost at this post. The prisoners at Salisbury should be marched at once to Greensborough. The Federal officers at this post I am sending to Greensborough on the passenger trains, stopping all private travel.

W. J. HOKE,
Colonel, Commanding.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865.*

Col. W. J. HOKE,
Charlotte, N. C.:

Let the orders of the Secretary of War be obeyed.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

* As sent by Hoke to Hardee it reads "two brigades"—see p. 1233.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 20, 1865.

Brigadier-General FRY,
Commanding, &c., Augusta :

GENERAL: A pontoon bridge has been ordered to be built over the Savannah River between Washington, Ga., and Abbeville, S. C. A guard is necessary at that point to protect it and also to arrest stragglers and deserters from the armies in South Carolina and Virginia. General Beauregard desires that you will relieve from duty the guard and officers ordered to report to you a few days since and direct them to proceed by the best practicable route to that point for the purpose above indicated. They should move with three days' cooked rations. The guard can in future be subsisted from Washington or Abbeville.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, &c.,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865.*

Maj. R. M. CARY, *Charlotte, N. C..*

General Beauregard recommends that the ordnance stores be removed from Charlotte as soon as possible. Major Trezevant left Ridgeville [Ridgeway] for Charlotte on 18th. He can give you more explicit information as to the ordnance shipped from Columbia. Every possible assistance was rendered.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865.*

General R. S. RIPLEY, *Charlotte, N. C.:*

Await orders in Charlotte.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Near White Oak, S. C., February 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. C. L. STEVENSON,
Commanding Lee's Corps:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you move with your command by the shortest and best route to Landsford ford, thence to Charlotte, via Belair and Pleasant Valley. You will await further orders at Charlotte. Unless otherwise pressed you will move at the rate of about twenty miles a day. He will move along the railroad, so as to be in telegraphic communication with General Hampton and the War Department. He will probably pass the night at Chesterville, and to-morrow night at or about the railroad bridge on the Catawba. General Hampton has been instructed to give orders to his trains whether to accompany yours or remain under his protection.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. R. CHISOLM,
Aide-de-Camp.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 20, 1865—11 a. m.*

Maj. F. S. PARKER:

I shall be on the evening train. An agent is on his way from Richmond for the delivery at Fort Fisher of all prisoners. The raid on Tarborough has returned.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*

(Received 1.30 21st.)

General BRAGG, *Magnolia*:

General Hoke holds his line confidently. General Hagood has transferred his force to east bank; his cavalry left across the Brunswick.

FRANK PARKER.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*

(Received 6.10 p. m.)

General BRAGG, *Magnolia*:

I hear they refuse to receive the prisoners now, and Hoke orders them to Goldsborough. They cannot all be moved there before the city falls. Please direct them to be unloaded at Burgaw and return for more. The Yankees are in three miles of the town and shelling furiously.

S. I. FREMONT,

Engineer Wilmington and Weldon Railroad.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

Schofield has 15,000 men. We will dispute every point.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*

(Received 10 o'clock.)

General R. E. LEE:

General Baker reports raid upon railroad and movements from New Berne. I cannot help him. Enemy in strong force against me. Battery Anderson was evacuated on the 19th instant.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865—11 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Kingstree:

Assisted by two brigades from you, we may succeed in forcing the passage of your force by this point.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 20, 1865—6.30 p. m.*

General HOKE:

Will leave in an hour or two. Telegraph me at Magnolia your condition this evening.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS,

In the Field, February 20, 1865—10 30 p. m.

General BRAGG, *Magnolia*:

All quiet now.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FORKS ROAD, *February 20, 1865.*

Major PARKER:

I telegraphed Commodore Pinckney asking him to organize all the naval forces in his department and those from Charleston into one command under his charge, and assign them to duty at the batteries at the obstructions, taking the surplus as an infantry support. It is desirable to have every man who can bear arms, and I hope the commodore will do it. Colonel Gaillard can be ordered on other duty, and his troops assigned to duty on the lines. Keep me advised of Hagood's movements. See him about it. I have had no answer.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

Major PARKER:

An answer has been sent, but not till this had been written. I started to the office, office being some distance from the general.

Respectfully,

RYAN.

FORKS ROAD, *February 20, 1865.*

Major PARKER:

Have Hedrick's brigade ready to move at once. Major Cross is coming for them. Have all stragglers collected and sent out to their commands.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

CROSS-ROADS, *February 20, 1865.*

Maj. FRANK PARKER:

The stores referred to for Fayetteville had better be sent. I do not want the absence of the steamer to interfere with General Hébert's ferry arrangement.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FORKS ROAD, *February 20, 1865—8.15 p. m.*

Major PARKER:

General Hoke is now strengthening his left flank, and I fear dispatches would not reach him at present. As soon as he returns he

intends to send me to Wilmington. Tell Major Cameron to keep river transportation for General Hagood until he hears from General Hoke.

J. L. CROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORKS ROAD, *February 20, 1865—8.15 p. m.*

Major PARKER

Some sharpshooting on the lines. The general expects to hold this position.

J. L. CROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE:

The advance of General Hagood's wagon train is now crossing the river at this point.

FRANK PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

UPPER TOWN CREEK, *February 20, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

Please send me the largest and most complete military map you have of the country north of this point. Send by courier as soon as possible. I would like, also, guides to the country north of the pontoon bridge. In case I am prevented from making a junction with General Hoke at Wilmington, I will have to cross the Cape Fear River higher up. Indicate fords or ferries. Enemy just opened on me with artillery.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 20, 1865.

Respectfully referred to the chief of engineers to meet the requirements of General Hagood.

Please let me know what action is proposed, that I may notify General Hagood by telegraph.

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*

Brigadier-General HAGOOD:

Keep me advised of enemy's progress, especially in Lipscomb's front. Railroad management depends upon this.

FRANK PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

UPPER TOWN CREEK BRIDGE, *February 20, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

Inform General Hoke that the enemy are landing at Cowan's house, north of Town Creek. It makes it necessary for me to prepare to leave this line of the creek. I will send my baggage at once across the

pontoon bridge at Wilmington. See that it is promptly got across to Wilmington and make arrangements at once to get my command over when I come. Reply at once. If the arrangements are ample I may have to evacuate before night; and, if so, will have to do so fighting with the enemy close upon me. Hurry the guides and maps for the event of my having to go higher up.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

TOWN CREEK BRIDGE, *February 20, 1865.*

Major PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am now evacuating. Enemy are turning my flank and are pushing me too strong. Am obliged to do so.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

FEBRUARY 20, 1865—8.30 p. m.

Colonel ANDERSON:

My advance guard is passing the pontoon. Where are we to bivouac on the Wilmington side?

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

Shall I destroy railroad bridge? If not otherwise ordered, shall.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 20, 1865.*
(Received 11 o'clock.)

General R. E. LEE, *Headquarters:*

The raiding party toward Tarborough, finding a force in their front, returned toward New Berne after destroying a small amount of stores at Greenville. Nothing further from New Berne to-day.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 20, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE:

The raid returned toward New Berne after destroying the stores at Greenville. Nothing further from New Berne to-day.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Winnaborough, S. C.:

If retrograde movement be confirmed Butler's proposed movement is approved.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON, or
General WHEELER,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

Colonel Dibrell, with his regiment, is here awaiting your orders, in consequence of the report of last night being groundless. The enemy is reported to be moving from Monticello to Chesterville. Please answer.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865—10 a. m.*

General HAMPTON,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

Stevenson moves this morning, via Landsford, Belair, and Pleasant Valley, to Charlotte, where he will await further orders, carrying his own trains. I shall move along the railroad that I may be in telegraphic communication with yourself and the Department. You will now have to guard your own trains, unless you prefer sending them on with General Stevenson's.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERVILLE, S. C., *February 20, 1865—11.15 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Black Stocks, S. C.:

Persons arriving from direction of Monticello this afternoon report none of our cavalry guarding that approach. I will leave here in the morning for railroad bridge.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 21, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

By mail you will receive a copy of telegram from General Beauregard of a startling character.* Yesterday I sent General Gilmer to advise with General Beauregard. I hope you have given your views as to the mode of concentrating his divided forces; also as to the probable plan of enemy.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[FEBRUARY 21, 1865.—For Breckinridge to Lee, relative to the collection of troops to resist Sherman's advance, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1245.]

* See Beauregard to Davis, p. 1238.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 21, 1865.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

An operator of the telegraph line, Wilmington, says:

Enemy's iron-clads shelling our last remaining battery, three miles from city, still pressing Hagood back. Hoke holds his position.

This may have an important bearing upon the movement of troops in South Carolina, and their transfer by Wilmington. Give the necessary information. General Beauregard's last telegram is from Chester. Enemy bearing upon that place, and only six miles north of Monticello.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

CHESTERVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*
 (Received 12 noon.)

President JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

Should enemy advance into North Carolina toward Charlotte and Salisbury, as is now almost certain, I earnestly urge a concentration in time of at least 35,000 infantry and artillery at latter point, if possible, to give him battle there, and crush him, then to concentrate all forces against Grant, and then to march on Washington to dictate a peace. Hardee and myself can collect about 15,000, exclusive of Cheatham and Stewart, not likely to reach in time. If Lee and Bragg could furnish 20,000 more the fate of the Confederacy would be secure.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERVILLE, S. C., *February 21, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

At request of Governor Magrath and the commanding officer of State militia (about 500 strong), I have allowed those forces to move east of Catawba River for protection of that portion of the State. They were unwilling to cross into North Carolina. This reduces my infantry to about 2,500 men.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCK HILL, S. C., *February 21, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

Your dispatch received. My course as to the South Carolina militia was based on the report of Governor Magrath that they would not* cross the State line, and of General Garlington, that his troops (men between the ages of fifty and sixty, and boys under seventeen) were completely exhausted, and unable to continue the march. They remain still in the field, however, under that officer. Please inform me what other course should have been adopted.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

* See Beauregard to Hampton, 22d, p. 1256.

CHESTERTVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*General SAMUEL COOPER,
Richmond, Va.:

Dispatch of 20th received. Order for removal of supplies on Sherman's route has been given to Charlotte and will be extended in rear, as Sherman's line of march is determined.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 43.ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, February 21, 1865.

* * * * *

IX. The ten companies of North Carolina Reserves, commanded by Col. Almond A. McKoy, will constitute a regiment to be designated the Eighth Regiment North Carolina Reserves.

* * * * *

XIII. Brig. Gen. G. J. Rains, chief of torpedo service, will report in person and without delay to Maj. Gen. J. F. Gilmer, at the headquarters of Gen. G. T. Beauregard, commanding, &c., taking with him a supply of sensitive tubes and such other articles as may be necessary in subterra and subaqueous operations. He will also take with him some competent person as an assistant.

* * * * *

XXIV. Brig. Gen. F. A. Shoup, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to the command of the artillery serving under Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee, and will report accordingly.

* * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*CHESTERTVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*Brig. Gen. A. R. LAWTON,
Quartermaster-General, Richmond, Va.:

As requested by you, all rolling-stock that could be spared from south and east of Columbia was brought out on this line. It must evidently be destroyed unless the gauge of the road from Charlotte to Danville be widened. Please give the necessary orders forthwith.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERTVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*Col. W. J. HOKE,
Charlotte, N. C.:

Double your guards and patrol streets to prevent pillaging. Arrest and confine all officers and men absent from their commands without proper papers. If resistance is offered resort to harshest measures to put it down.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. W. LORING:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you proceed with the troops under your orders to-day to join the force now operating north of the Saluda River, near Newberry. You will move by way of Edgefield Court-House, and cross the river, if practicable, at Lorick's Ferry. If Storrs' battalion should not be fully equipped, you will equip one battery by transfer of horses, &c., leaving the others here to be fitted up. No other wagons than those furnished you can be had.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 21, 1865—11.45 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. A. P. STEWART, *Commanding Corps, &c.:*

GENERAL: The following, just received, is communicated for your information. You will conduct your future movements in accordance with the directions therein expressed.*

By command of General Beauregard:
 GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Major-General Cheatham.)

ROCK HILL, *February 21, 1865.*

Major CHISMAN, *Greensborough, N. C.:*

If there be no commandant of post at Greensborough assume command. Arrest all stragglers and absentees from this army and return them. If there be a commandant of the post, transfer this order to him.

By command of General Beauregard:
 JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ROCK HILL, *February 21, 1865.*

COMMANDANT OF POST AT SALISBURY, N. C.:

Arrest all stragglers and absentees from this army not provided with proper authority, and return them under guard. Inspect railroad cars, as many go by rail.

By command of General Beauregard:
 JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 21, 1865.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

I thank you for your patriotic proclamation,† and trust you may promptly bring a large auxiliary force into the field. Time is all important to a success which will revive confidence.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

* See Otey to Brent, 17th, p. 1209.

† See p. 1187.

ROCK HILL, S. C., *February 21, 1865—8 a. m.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

We will endeavor to check enemy as far south as possible. Greensborough is only a temporary point of concentration. Enemy from Charlotte may move on Greensborough, Raleigh, or Wilmington.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Richmond, Va.:

I find all our troops on this side Cape Fear. The enemy in force on the west, and our communications south cut. We are greatly outnumbered. General Schofield in command with two corps. He refuses to receive prisoners and they are being sent north.

B. BRAGG,
General.

Respectfully submitted to the Hon. Secretary of War.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy sent to the President.)

RICHMOND, *February 21, 1865.*

General BRAGG,
Wilmington:

General Beauregard should be kept informed of the state of things at Wilmington, and whether troops can pass from South Carolina via Wilmington to defend the interior.

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Secretary of War.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

(Received 11 a. m.)

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

I find on arrival that our forces are driven from the west bank of Cape Fear. The enemy's force is two corps under Schofield.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 21, 1865. (Via Richmond.)

General BRAGG:

Destroy all cotton, tobacco, and naval stores that would otherwise fall into the hands of the enemy, in accordance with the law published in General Orders, No. 4, current series, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 21, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Is McLaws within reach to aid in repulse of enemy? If not, notify him and Beauregard that he may take another route.

R. E. LEE.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865—10.45 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

Holding one corps in Hoke's front, the enemy has thrown another to the west of the Cape Fear, which is now opposite the town. This compels me to cross the Northeast River or they will be in my rear to-morrow. Our small forces renders it impossible to make any serious stand. We are greatly embarrassed by prisoners, the enemy refusing to receive them or entertain any proposition. General Orders, No. 4, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, already complied with.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

On my arrival I find my forces driven from west side Cape Fear and the railroad in possession of enemy. Have notified General Hardee. Two corps, Schofield and Terry, are opposed to Hoke's division.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Kingstree:

We have retired to east of Cape Fear, and the Manchester road is cut. You had better follow your original plan, as the movement this way is no longer practicable.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 15. } *Wilmington, February 21, 1865.*

I. General Braxton Bragg, having returned, resumes command of the department.

II. Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke is assigned to the command of the Third Military District.

III. The general court-martial convened in Special Orders, No. 23, headquarters Department of North Carolina, is dissolved, and the members will report for duty with their respective commands.

IV. The following officers will report to Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke, commanding Third Military District: Col. G. A. Cunningham, Provisional Army, C. S.; Maj. T. B. Venable, assistant adjutant-general; Maj. A. Vanderhorst, assistant adjutant-general.

V. Col. S. D. Thruston, Third Regiment North Carolina Volunteers, will assume control of the post at Company's Shops, North Carolina Railroad, and there organize such local forces as he may find.

By order:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITEVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*

General R. F. HOKE:

I have seen the superintendent of this road, Captain Drane, who states that events have occurred since your telegram of the 19th, which, in his opinion, precludes the arrival of my train. Please answer immediately at this point if it is proper for me to come on.

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag Officer.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Capt. J. R. TUCKER,
Whiteville:

You should remain at Whiteville to check any advance of the enemy if possible, and fall back before him for the protection of the Fayetteville arsenal. Send all stores back.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WHITEVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

Telegram received. I have 350 sailors unused to marching. No artillery or transportation for stores or baggage. Have a train here on which I propose to move to Cheraw, and thence to Charlotte. All store trains are going back. I do not think the small force can check enemy, and propose leaving in any direction you think best after sending my sick trains. Please answer immediately. I would suggest the Cheraw route for the sake of transportation for baggage.

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag Officer, Commanding.

FORKS ROAD, *February 21, 1865.*

Major PARKER:

With Hardee's troops at once I feel sure we can hold the place and get them by Wilmington. Will answer fully when I see Major Cross, who I suppose is on the way, from your dispatch.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS HOKE'S DIVISION,
February 21, 1865.

Major PARKER:

You must inform General Hardee in my name the true state of affairs. Be careful not to allow the dispatch to fall into the hands of the enemy.

If you have not informed General Bragg, do so. Tell General Hagood to give Colonel Jackson any assistance he may want in carrying out his orders.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE :

By one of boats left uninjured the enemy have made a lodgment in small force on Eagle Island, and will no doubt move soon upon the town. Hold your command ready.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE :

General Bragg directs that all of your transportation not needed for current use be transferred to the north bank Northeast River. A depot is being established there.

FRANK PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 21, 1865.

OFFICER COMMANDING DETACHMENT OF HAGOOD'S COMMAND :

SIR: Major-General Hoke directs that you will immediately dispose of your force on the causeway leading from the pontoon crossing to the city, so as to check any advance of the enemy if attempted, and give us warning of his approach. A picket should be thrown out on the railroad for same purpose.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 21, 1865.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON,
Commanding Post:

COLONEL: Major-General Hoke telegraphs me this morning that he wishes all stragglers collected and sent out to their commands. You will please take prompt steps to execute this order as far as possible.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Goldsborough :

Enemy had driven our forces across the river when I arrived, and are now opposite to us in small force. Mrs. B will leave this evening; see her on to Raleigh.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Goldsborough :

The enemy's force and positions are such on my arrival as to compel the evacuation of this place to-night. Continue to send trains.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Maj. ROBERT STRANGE,
Fayetteville :

I find on arrival the enemy has driven us from west bank of Cape Fear. This uncovers the arsenal. Commanding officer should send off his most valuable stores, especially ammunition for small-arms. He should impress wagons and send to nearest railroad depot.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHESTER, *February 21, 1865.*

General WADE HAMPTON,
Black Stocks :

We have about 500 sacks corn and 15,000 rations for the men here. Shall I leave it for you? Your boxes from Columbia are here still.

JNO. M. OTEY,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHESTERVILLE, S. C., *February 21, 1865—7.15 a. m.*

General WADE HAMPTON,
Black Stocks, S. C. :

To give Stevenson time to reach Charlotte, you must guard with Wheeler the direct roads to that point from enemy's present position.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERVILLE, S. C., *February 21, 1865—7.45 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Black Stocks, S. C. :

Your communication of 8.45 p. m. yesterday has just reached me. I approve of your plan for Butler to operate on rear and flanks of enemy. Charlotte, or along railroad to Salisbury, will be good point of concentration.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTER, *February 21, 1865—8 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Black Stocks, S. C. :

I will await you.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCK HILL, *February 21, 1865.*

General HAMPTON,
Chesterville, S. C. :

State Cadets moved with General Garlington across the Catawba. Governor Magrath stated they cannot cross State line.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCK HILL, S. C., *February 21, 1865.*

General WADE HAMPTON,
Chesterville, S. C.:

Arrived a few moments ago. The general desires you to report to-day's operations and movements of enemy.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHESTER, *February 21, 1865*

General BEAUREGARD:

No movement reported on Monticello road. Enemy did not occupy Winnsborough till to-day. Wheeler reports force this evening two miles west Youngsville. All quiet here.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 22, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Chester, S. C.:

Your telegram of yesterday received, and a copy of it sent to General Lee. Your request for large re-enforcements from the Army of Virginia will best be judged of by General Lee. I am sorry to see that you do not expect a junction to be made by Stewart and Cheatham in time for the pressing emergency. I had hoped that by moving on the left of the enemy, if he were obstructed in his advance, they would reach you before any junction could be made by Sherman with Schofield or Grant. The position of the enemy near Wilmington endangers the continued use of the railroads on the east of your line of retreat.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[FEBRUARY 22, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relative to resisting Sherman's advance, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1247.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, U. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 22, 1865.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

The railroad between Salisbury and Goldsborough necessary for supply. Transportation [of] prisoners between these points must be delayed or marched through the country. For marching, strong guards of mounted men wanted. Can you give directions or make suggestions on the subject. Write to you to-day concerning this.

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 22, 1865. (Received 9.10 a. m.)

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War:

From dispatch of General Bragg of 21st, conclude he has abandoned Cape Fear River. Says he is embarrassed by prisoners.

Enemy refuses to receive or entertain propositions. I expect no change will be made by General Grant. It is his policy to delay. Have directed prisoners to be sent to Richmond by rail or highway, as most practicable. If wrong, correct it.

R. E. LEE.

RICHMOND, *February 22, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:
(Care Major Echols.)

The Secretary of War directs that you report by telegram to General R. E. Lee, Petersburg, Va., for orders.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

Major Echols will forward this dispatch by express courier to General Johnston. He was at Lincolnton, N. C., the 20th instant.

RICHMOND, *February 22, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

A dispatch has been sent to-day to General Johnston, care of the quartermaster, Charlotte, N. C., directing him to report by telegram to you for orders. The quartermaster is ordered to forward it by express courier. General Johnston was at Lincolnton, N. C., the 20th instant.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 22, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Assume command of the Army of Tennessee and all troops in Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Assign General Beauregard to duty under you, as you may select. Concentrate all available forces and drive back Sherman.

R. E. LEE.

LINCOLNTON, N. C., *February 22, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

It is too late to expect me to concentrate troops capable of driving back Sherman. The remnant of the Army of Tennessee is much divided. So are other troops. I will get information from General Beauregard as soon as practicable. Is any discretion allowed me? I have no staff.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

ROCK HILL, *February 22, 1865—9.30 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Lieutenant-General Hampton reports from Chester last night that the enemy occupied Winnsborough yesterday. His advance two miles west of Youngsville. General Stevenson crossed the Catawba at Landsford yesterday on the way to Charlotte.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCK HILL, *February 22, 1865—11 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

The Catawba River from Landsford to the railroad bridge offering no defensive line for a small force General Stevenson is retiring with the trains to Charlotte.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 22, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

I have directed General J. E. Johnston to assume command of southern army and to assign you to duty with him. Together I feel assured you will beat back Sherman.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 22, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Your dispatch informing me that you had directed General Joseph E. Johnston to assume command of the southern army and to assign me to duty with him has just been received. In the defense of our common country I will at all times be happy to serve with or under so gallant and patriotic a soldier as General Johnston.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 22, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Lieutenant-General Hampton reports as follows from Chester:

Enemy are evidently moving eastward. The Fourteenth Corps on the railroad. Sherman has moved to his right. Kilpatrick is there also. Butler reports enemy moving toward Catawba River. I think they intend to cross low down or to move on Camden. Scouts report them leaving Broad River and moving east.

In consequence of the fall of Wilmington the route of McLaws' troops will be changed at once. Major-General Gilmer arrived here this evening.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS. { HDQRS. ARMIES CONFEDERATE STATES,
No. 3. { *February 22, 1865.*

I. General J. E. Johnston, C. S. Army, is hereby assigned to the command of the two military departments known as the Department of Tennessee and Georgia, and the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and the troops therein. He will proceed at once to effect a concentration of all available forces, and make the necessary dispositions to thwart the designs of the enemy operating in those departments.

II. General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, will report to General J. E. Johnston, commanding, &c., for assignment to such duty as he deems most advisable.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 No. 44. } *Richmond, February 22, 1865.*

* * * * *

XL. Capt. A. C. Earle's company, South Carolina Cavalry, is hereby assigned to the Nineteenth Battalion South Carolina Cavalry, and will join the command as soon as practicable.

XLI. Captain Fair's company of reserves is hereby transferred permanently to active service with the consent of officers and men, and is assigned to the Nineteenth Battalion South Carolina Cavalry.

By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 22, 1865.

General BRAGG:

If you cannot arrest progress of enemy, concentrate your troops, hang upon his flanks, cripple and retard him, leaving no supplies in his route. Be bold and judicious. Governor will give all aid in his power. If prisoners are not received they must be sent to Richmond by rail or highway as fast as practicable.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, *February 22, 1865.*
 (Received 23d.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Burgaw:

If Wilmington and Weldon track is cut, can you use the rolling-stock to advantage in removing troops to head of North Carolina Railroad toward Salisbury or Charlotte? Refer to Col. R. H. Colvan, president, at Wilmington.

R. T. GUION.

FEBRUARY 22, 1865.

Major PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have just been informed by Colonel Lipscomb that the enemy are advancing. I will have everything in readiness. Will ride out and investigate it.

Respectfully, yours,

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

IN THE FIELD,
Northeast River, February 22, 1865.

General BAKER,
Goldsborough:

Colonel Hatch had probably better come on to communicate with enemy relative to exchange. His credentials may accomplish something. We evacuated Wilmington this morning.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 22, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Will the enemy be opposed should he march on Fayetteville?

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

[FEBRUARY 22, 1865.]

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

The enemy's superior force will, I fear, enable him to send a detachment against you, which can only be met by your own resources.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

FEBRUARY 22, 1865.

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War:

SIR: At the suggestion of Mr. McRae, of the Raleigh Confederate, I inclose to you some extracts from the Raleigh Standard and Progress of a treasonable character. With the State of North Carolina assailed on every side how can we hope for success when such publications are permitted.

Respectfully, &c., your obedient servant,

J. TAYLOR WOOD.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

RALEIGH, *February 7, 1865.*

[Col. J. TAYLOR WOOD:]

MY DEAR COLONEL: When I was in Richmond I stated the general matters in North Carolina that were going amiss, and recommended the policy which I thought would strengthen the Administration and the Government. First of all, the friends of the Administration should fill the Confederate offices, and they should be carefully selected with reference to their character as gentlemen and men of unquestionable fidelity. I trust that General Breckinridge (to whom you are at liberty to show this letter) will appreciate what I say. I am prepared alone, or in conference with whatever friends the President may select, to recommend such officers as would be the right men to fill the posts in this place. We have news of the result of Messrs. Stephens', &c., conference with Lincoln. It does not disappoint me; but it produces no change here. Holden's paper and the Progress to-day are unequivocally for submission, *i. e.*, they repeat their peace agitation and declare anew the incompetency of the Government to secure peace. They both recommend State action, and the former urges meetings of the people to agitate for a convention, and Judge Pearson on the receipt of information that our commissioners had received the ultimatum of Lincoln, proposed in the House of Commons a resolution that the terms were incompatible with honor or safety, and that we ought to resist with all our means. The resolution was stifled by Messrs. Carter and others. It is apparent that the friends of the Government and the cause here will be crushed unless more strength is put forth. Can it be possible that these disturbing elements are to be still allowed to work their evil when the Confederacy is put upon the distinct issue of ignominious surrender? If so, I have no hope, for in the appeal to the people they have all the prejudices, and, what is worse, they have the

fears on their side; you see what I mean. If nothing can be done to quell the submissive spirit, the Confederacy has nothing to hope from here. I cannot yet judge of the temper and purpose of Congress. But a Government with power can alone now save us. Let the President immediately secure in every post in the State a firm friend and a patriotic officer. Let him be so selected from the State as to give no cause of complaint, and then let measures be adopted as will deter men from hurting the cause, or punish them immediately if they do. I have as little at stake now as most men, and can go down with those who fall with the country, but there is no need to allow trouble in North Carolina. It can be readily quelled by energy and proper governmental authority. The Legislature has adjourned and does not come together until May, but we shall have a most deleterious agitation in the interval unless it be prevented. They not only did no good, but they passed every possible exemption to keep men out of the service, the purpose being openly announced. I write hastily and with a bad pen. I hope for the best, but good does not lie in discussion before the people, but in acute legislation and governmental action.

Yours, very truly,

D. K. McRAE.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

RALEIGH, N. C., *February 11, 1865.*

[Col. J. TAYLOR WOOD:]

MY DEAR COLONEL: You have no doubt supposed, as any rational man would suppose, that the peace element in North Carolina would have subsided after the insulting repulsion of our commissioners and the manifestations on the part of our enemies to force upon us a degrading submission. But such is not the fact, and that you may see that it is not, I send you extracts from the press of this place published since the return of Messrs. Stephens, &c., on the 10th instant, with a view, if possible, to elicit a co-operation of the press and people in the cause. I wrote the article which I inclose from the Confederate. I inclose also articles from the Standard and Progress of subsequent dates. No response has been given to my proposition from either of these papers. Above articles will speak for themselves. Now, it is evident that not only no encouragement is to be given by those who have heretofore stifled the cause in this State to any loyal manifestations, but that the same efforts are to continue to depreciate the Government, to pronounce hopeless the cause, to dispirit and depress the people, and to disaffect them. If this be allowed to continue it is impossible by any argument of speech or writing to counteract the evil influences. Desertions will increase; people will withhold their supplies. The spirit of submission will take fast hold and North Carolina will await the approach of the enemy with resignation to her fate. The present state of things is the natural consequence of the illegitimate course pursued by these journals and their coadjutors for a year past, and we are reaping the fruits of our toleration. You will see plain as day that both these papers recommend submission on any terms, and they have the advantage in that all the logic to be addressed to the fears and prejudices of the ignorant and cowardly and to the selfishness of the needy is on their side, and something stronger than the strongest appeals to manhood, pride, and patriotism, is needed to avert their evil influence. I see no way for any practical aid from the State, not much even for a show of returning enthusiasm except in the military strength of the Government.

Yours, very truly,

D. K. McRAE.

[From the Confederate.]

Taking it for granted that we are all united in the determination to resist to the death the ignominious and degrading terms which the invaders of our country dictate to us, and that the true-hearted people of North Carolina will emulate the hardy and invincible resolution of Virginia, we propose to our contemporaries of the press in Raleigh to unite in an invitation to the people adjacent to Raleigh to assemble in mass meeting in order to give expression to the sentiments of loyalty and the determination of patriotism; that our delegation in Congress and such other distinguished citizens of the State as hold the confidence of the people—without reference to political affiliations or differences of opinion—be invited to be present and address the people on the condition of the country; and that steps may be taken to harmonize and unite all the elements of society, in the common effort to defend our threatened liberties. We ask a response from them.

[From the Progress.]

The "monster mass" meetings being held in Richmond are noticed in all the papers of that city with show-bill headings, but nothing is said about recruits. There is great "enthusiasm" at the meetings, but not a man is put in the army. When will these farces cease?

[From the Progress.]

THE SITUATION.

Things are so confused that there is but little to say about the military situation. Sherman is in South Carolina, seemingly having things his own way. A portion of his force has crossed the Edisto River, near Branchville, but how far he has advanced, or for what point he aims, we are not advised. He is reported as moving on both Augusta and Columbia, but we shall be greatly surprised if he don't move his main force on Charleston while demonstrating on the other two places. We know nothing of the strength of our own force in South Carolina any more than we do of the magnitude of Sherman's army, but if the enemy are not in possession of both Charleston and Wilmington before the March winds have finished their requiem we shall be disappointed. In fact, the evacuation of both of these cities at an early day will not astonish us. These are our convictions, and we see no harm to come of expressing them. And then what? Sherman being able to maintain himself in South Carolina, and the whole country beyond the Savannah River at the mercy of the foe, the two main Federal armies, one in Virginia and the other in South Carolina, will press forward, having General Lee and our army now in South Carolina between them, and the probability is that during the coming summer the thing will be "fought out" and the "last ditch" reached somewhere here in North Carolina, certainly between the Pedee and the Roanoke rivers. The negroes may be put in, or they may be kept out, but the end will come speedily and the result will be the same.

They may whip us or we may whip them—it will depend upon the number, courage, and endurance of the troops—but the campaign of the coming spring and summer will be the last. If we conquer the enemy, we shall have everything our own way, but if they conquer us, we shall be subjugated provinces. These are the facts, and we may as well state them. Peace and equality might be had now by conciliation and compromise, but if we go on and lose, we lose all and become the slaves

of the conquerors. But the time for speculation has ceased—the crisis is upon us—and we feel sure that the best or worst will soon be known. Let all do their duty and bear with patience and fortitude the trials that await us.

[From the Progress.]

We shall probably never know all the facts connected with the conference which recently took place on shipboard in Hampton Roads between Lincoln and Seward and the commissioners of Mr. Davis, but as the details begin to leak out from both sides, we find that the ultimatums of the two rulers were just what we predicted they would be before the conference took place: Lincoln demanded unconditional submission to the laws and authority of the United States, while Mr. Davis' commissioners were instructed to demand the unconditional recognition of the Confederacy, including States that have never furnished us either men or material with which to prosecute the war.

It is evident from the Northern news published by us yesterday that the dispatches that have been sent out from Richmond, relative to the conference, have been highly colored for the purpose of inflaming and exasperating the people, and with the further hope, no doubt, of inducing our people to consent to the mad project of arming and freeing two or three hundred thousand negroes. We have heard from very excellent authority, from a gentleman who has recently mingled with members of Congress in Richmond, that it was well understood there that the delegations from South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and North Carolina were favorably disposed toward reconstruction, provided they could get the Union, as it was, under the Constitution as it is, or was when Mr. Lincoln was inaugurated; and it was also understood that Mr. Davis would not oppose it. Now, if this be so, and we have but little doubt of it, why were the commissioners instructed to demand the unconditional recognition of the Confederacy? Mr. Davis had no idea the Federal authorities would do that, and hence this attempt to negotiate is all a farce, and the supposition that the subject of reconstruction and a restoration of the old Union has been freely discussed and favorably considered by Mr. Davis and his Congress is strengthened by the speech delivered by him on Monday night, in which he is reported as saying that "under no circumstances would he be again for reconstruction and Union."

This language clearly implies, if it implies anything, that he had been for it, and that he would have accepted it could he have obtained his own terms. The dispatches from Richmond tell us a good deal about "pains and penalties," "confiscations," &c., that would follow the acceptance of Lincoln's terms, but they fail to tell us what we get from a Washington dispatch, to wit: "That Lincoln informed the commissioners that recognition was utterly out of the question; that the United States could stop the war only on condition that the authority of the National Government should be recognized and obeyed over the whole territory of the United States. This point conceded, he assured them that upon any other matter of difference they would be treated with the utmost liberality." But this would not do, because it seems from the Northern account of the conference Mr. Stephens was instructed, if he could not get unconditional recognition, to maneuver for temporary recognition, holding out as an inducement that if the Federal authorities would but treat with us "as an independent nation that such an agreement could be had as would unite the North and

South." Is not this trifling with the people who are the great sufferers by this war? Whilst Mr. Davis and his Congress are holding out the idea to their own people that they will have us all annihilated before they will consent to a restoration of the old Union, they send commissioners to the Federal authorities to propose ultimate reconstruction, provided present advantages can be secured thereby.

If the people of the South belong to Mr. Davis and his Congress—if they are but the subjects of a military despotism that is supreme—they will submit to have the negroes freed and armed, and await with meek resignation the ruin, degradation, and slavery that is too sure to follow; but if they are the free citizens of free sovereign States, they will not bow the neck for the yoke that is preparing for them, but will demand that such terms as the Federal authorities propose to offer be submitted to them for their ratification or rejection. This is the people's war, and we are satisfied, from our intercourse with them, that an immense majority are for stopping it.

[From the Standard.]

The Confederate, of this city, after giving the terms of peace offered by Mr. Lincoln to the Southern people, says:

Before expressing the sentiments with which these propositions impress us, we wait to see whether those who have heretofore differed from us, will offer us hopes of united action.

The Legislature of this State, which has just adjourned, would neither make war nor make peace. It seemed to halt between two opinions. The reply of Mr. Lincoln was known to that body before it adjourned, and yet it neither prolonged its session nor expressed its views in relation to the terms which he had offered us. It said neither yea nor nay to those terms. Of course we speak of the majority, composed of Davis and Vance destructives. Even the editor of the Confederate, who speaks for the Confederate officials in this State and for the destructive party, "waits to see" what his opponents will do before he buckles on his armor and hurls defiance at President Lincoln. Under these circumstances what are we to do? If the editor of the Confederate and those who agree with him think there is reasonable ground for hoping that Grant and Sherman can be driven back, the Federal armies generally defeated, our lost territory regained, and that, as the result of this, the enemy will sue for peace and then give us independence—we say, if they think there is reasonable ground for hoping for this, let them urge on the war; but let them remember that the Confederacy will need, in order to make successful headway in the field, at least 200,000 more men, to say nothing of negro soldiers; and that supplies must be produced for the army and the people at home. If the war fever is increasing, and if the purpose is to "fight it out" to the last extremity, why is it that we hear of no volunteering, and of no efforts to raise companies to meet the enemy? But suppose there should be no reasonable ground to hope for success, and that from very desperation the war should be prosecuted six months longer, and 50,000 more lives should be lost, and all these States should be overrun and subjugated, and utter ruin should thus befall us, sweeping into its vortex our slaves and the unoffending women and children, and the States should be reduced to a territorial condition and military governors placed over them, and they should be held in this condition for years; suppose these results should take place, what would be the feelings and fate of those whom the people would regard as instrumental in causing all these calamities?

[From the Standard.]

MR. EDITOR: In the characteristic and eloquent speech of Hon. Mr. Turner, published in your last issue, a very graphic parallel is drawn between the combatants in the present awful struggle and the old Romans and Carthaginians, led on respectively by Scipio and Hannibal. I quote from the speech:

"The two colossal powers of the new continent well represent the two powers of the old. The North, old, rich, crafty, and more perfidious than Carthage; the South, young, poor, robust, and brave as Rome.

Now that the two armies upon Powhatan's parent stream impend like two clouds surcharged with electricity, with whose contact must come the thunder shock; now that Hannibal and Scipio eye each other from head to foot; now that they are ready when spring opens to close again with each other; now, while there is a pause in the storm, in the name of God, in the name of humanity, let the statesman say, 'Peace, be still.' Let the statesman say, as Napoleon said to the King of England, after his hundred battles, 'Sire, is it not time for peace?' And if peace follows not an honest effort at negotiation, then let young Rome gather all her forces for one last appalling effort, and God grant she may sweep perfidious Carthage from the face of the earth."

Mr. Editor, has not the "honest effort" been made? Have we not done all that could be done consistent with dignity and honor? Have we not almost prostrated ourselves "before the throne," and have we not been spurned? As it seems that peace could not follow this honest effort at negotiation, ought we not now with one voice sternly say, now "let young Rome gather all her forces for one last appalling effort, and God grant she may sweep perfidious Carthage from the face of the earth!" What more can we do? Ought we not now to be united? If we fall in the struggle, we at least save our honor. If we submit, we lose all, and honor too. I think I may appeal to you to save the country from that last deep degradation. As one who has accorded to your paper honest intentions, coupled with great power and influence in our good old State (though in many things compelled to differ with you in sentiment), may I not without presumption urge now a reunion to save Rome in her struggle for life? She needs your strong arm and asks it. Shall she ask in vain?

W.

We cheerfully give our subscriber and correspondent a hearing, though we have differed with him politically. But while we have seriously considered what he has said, it seems to us that we should bear in mind, while commencing to fight *de novo*, the following verses from Holy Writ:

For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,

Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.

Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?

Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.—St. Luke, 14th chapter, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st and 32d verses.

ROCK HILL, S. C., *February 22, 1865—9.40 a. m.*

General HAMPTON,
Chester, S. C.:

Should enemy move in direction of Catawba Valley send parties on each side of river to remove or destroy all supplies, as already directed.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ROCK HILL, S. C., *February 22, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Chester, S. C.:

Dispatch of yesterday relative to Cadets should read "could not" instead of "would not." Please correct it.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCK HILL, *February 22, 1865.*

General HAMPTON,
Chester, S. C.:

Kanapaux is with Stevenson. Order will be given as desired by you on arrival in Charlotte.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. ARMIES,
February 23, 1865.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I inclose a copy of the order* assigning you to command, and trust that you will be able to enter at once upon the discharge of your duties. General Beauregard, upon whose cheerful and zealous support I need not say you can fully rely, will apprise you of the present condition of affairs. Leaving the adoption of the best measures of defense to your skill and judgment, I will only suggest what has occurred to me from the information I have received. I have doubted whether it was General Sherman's intention to move by way of Charlotte, Greensborough, and Danville, toward Richmond, as the difficulties attending that course would be very great. I thought that after a demonstration in [that] direction, laying waste the country and destroying the railroads, he would turn toward the coast and reopen his communications and endeavor to unite with the army of General Schofield, operating on the Cape Fear River. The latest intelligence from General Hampton would indicate that General Sherman is moving eastwardly toward Camden. Should such be his purpose the troops that withdrew from Charleston toward Monk's Corner would be in some danger of falling between General Sherman and General Schofield, and I think it would be best to move them as rapidly as possible to Fayetteville, or any other convenient point whence they can proceed to General Beauregard's army, or be otherwise used as you see fit. The movement

* See Special Orders, No. 3, p. 1248.

of General Sherman above suggested would also intercept the march of Stewart's and Cheatham's corps, which, as I understand, are advancing east of Columbia to join the forces under Beauregard in front of Sherman. If a junction of these troops cannot be effected at once with the rest of the army they should be kept upon the enemy's flank so as to embarrass his movements until such time as they can be united with the others. I need not say that the first thing to be done is to concentrate all our forces and bring out every available man. If this can be accomplished in time to strike General Sherman before he reaches the coast or unites with Schofield, I hope for favorable results. His progress can be embarrassed and retarded by removing or destroying all kinds of supplies on his route, and I hope you will spare no effort to accomplish this object. You will have to depend upon marching, to a great extent, for the movement of your troops, and upon wagons for transporting supplies. Should your operations bring you within reach of the troops under General Bragg, and you find that they can be used to advantage, of course you will direct their movements. In this connection I call your attention to the fact that a column of the enemy is reported as preparing to move by Kinston toward Goldsborough, to oppose which there is only a small force under General Baker. If, on the other hand, General Sherman should advance northwardly toward Greensborough and Danville and we cannot check him, it will become necessary for this army to change its position. I am endeavoring to hold General Grant in check as long as possible and resist any attempt he may make to co-operate with the Federal forces in North Carolina. At this time nothing can be sent from here to your assistance, but should the enemy reach the Roanoke, I should endeavor to unite with you to strike him, or if opportunity occurred, to attack General Grant if he follows me rapidly. This outline will explain generally the posture of affairs. It is needless for me to call your attention to the vital importance of checking General Sherman and preserving our railroad communications as far as practicable. I rely confidently upon you to do all that the means at your disposal will permit, and hope for the most favorable issue. You can depend upon receiving all the assistance I can render. Please keep me advised of the enemy's movements, and of your own, that I may be able to co-operate as far as practicable. It will be well to call upon the State authorities to set to work at once to repair the roads as they are left open by the advance of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

General Beauregard has given orders for the concentration of all his forces. Lieutenant-General Hardee is moving by Florence and Cheraw, and Major-General Cheatham and Lieutenant-General Stewart by Newberry. In front of the Federal army are the cavalry and S. D. Lee's corps, 3,000; Stewart and Cheatham, 3,200; Lieutenant-General Hardee's, about 11,000; cavalry, about 6,000. I suggest that General Bragg's troops join these. Can Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, assistant adjutant-general, join me? I have no staff, that of the Army of Tennessee being dispersed.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

President JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

Enemy's movement from Winnsborough toward Catawba River seems to be more positive. He has withdrawn from vicinity of Chesterville, which will enable Cheatham and Stewart to reach here via Newberry and Unionville. Enemy may now probably move on Cheraw and Fayetteville. I have given orders accordingly to General Hardee. Could not all our forces be united against Grant?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 23, 1865.

General BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte:

If enemy turns east McLaws will be in danger. Hasten him forward, also mass all troops in your rear to retard and embarrass enemy until you can bring them forward. They must march vigorously.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Orders have been sent to McLaws to comply with the instructions contained in your dispatch of this date.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President Confederate States, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: In compliance with your instructions of the 20th instant I proceeded with dispatch to this place, and on my arrival yesterday I found General Beauregard here, who had just returned from the front. At our first interview he informed me that his opinion was the enemy—then near Chesterville—would press on at once to Charlotte, making it impossible for our forces to be concentrated here in sufficient strength to resist successfully, and that it would probably be necessary, in order to gain time, to fall back to Salisbury, or even to some point east of the Yadkin River. Major-General Stevenson's command, about 2,000 effectives, was within one day's march of this place; Major-General Cheatham's corps, of about the same strength, was at or near Newberry, S. C.; Lieutenant-General Stewart's, say 1,200, a day's march in rear of Cheatham; and Lieutenant-General Hardee's forces, probably at or in the vicinity of Florence. The telegrams from General Hampton last night intimated that the enemy was moving eastwardly, possibly to Cheraw by Camden. Cheatham and Stewart have been ordered to come directly to Charlotte, in case Sherman's movement toward the east be confirmed, and Hardee directed to press forward to the north of Cheraw, but to delay the enemy's march by obstructing roads, &c. The work of blocking roads, destroying bridges, and filling up fords, south of this place, will be pressed with vigor. The people of the country will furnish

labor in abundance, with all necessary subsistence and tools. It is not improbable the enemy may go via Cheraw to Fayetteville, where supplies can be sent to him by way of the Cape Fear River, afterward to Goldsborough or Raleigh, and establish a temporary base at New Berne. Should this prove to be the case, such forces as we have can be concentrated in the eastern part of this State, in time, it is hoped, to meet him.

I am, with high respect, your obedient servant,

J. F. GILMER,
Major-General and Chief Engineer.

[FEBRUARY 23, 1865.—For General Orders, No. 8, from Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Richmond, relating to the service of the Reserves, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1251.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 45. } *Richmond, February 23, 1865.*

* * * * *

XIII. General J. E. Johnston, C. S. Army, is assigned to duty, and will report for orders by telegraph to General R. E. Lee, Commander-in-Chief, Petersburg, Va.

* * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 51. } *February 23, 1865.*

* * * * *

VI. Brig. Gen. C. Leventhorpe, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to General B. Bragg, commanding, &c., for assignment to the command of Clingman's brigade, Hoke's division.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,

In the Field, Charlotte, N. C., February 23, 1865—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General STEWART, or

Major-General CHEATHAM,

At or about Newberry, S. C.:

Wilmington having fallen into the hands of the enemy, it renders the movement via that city impracticable at present. Hence, should you have already reached the vicinity of Columbia, you will repair to Cheraw by railroad, as already instructed, from Statesburg or Manchester, with as much rapidity as possible; thence by dirt road to Greensborough, via Wadesborough and Ashborough. Couriers will

meet you at those points to give you information of the enemy's movements, if threatening or necessary. At Cheraw you will find seven days' supplies, provisions and forage. Should you not have advanced to the vicinity of Columbia you will await further orders at or about Newberry. Should the enemy move, however (as is now reported), across the Catawba and thence eastwardly, instead of directly on Charlotte, you will repair forthwith from your present position to Chesterville by the best or safest route, where cars will await your arrival to bring you to this place.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

P. S.—2.30 p. m.—Having just learned that you had arrived at Jones' Ferry, you will proceed at once to Chesterville or by the route already laid down by Lieutenant-General Hampton.*

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 23, 1865.

COMMANDANT POST,
Camak, Ga.:

SIR: It is the direction of General Beauregard that you see that no delay occurs, and facilitate the forwarding of subsistence stores consigned to Maj. H. Cranston, commissary of subsistence, Augusta, Ga., for Barnett.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 23, 1865.

Col. A. F. RUDLER,
Commandant Post, Washington, Ga.:

COLONEL: General Beauregard directs that you will turn over the command of the post at Washington to Col. John B. Weems and report promptly to Brigadier-General Fry, Augusta, for orders.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

Maj. N. R. CHAMBLISS,
Salisbury, N. C.:

Ordnance officer not yet arrived. You had better send some one to take charge of ammunition and let it remain here until needed.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FEBRUARY 23, 1865.

[General STEWART:]

I wrote you a few moments since. Inclosed I send you a communication from Colonel Crews. Prospects for boats are gloomy. I will order him, if possible, to get some boats from the Saluda River, even as high up as McNary's Ferry. I am afraid that, on account of the mill-dams, it will be difficult to get them out.

B. F. CHEATHAM,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS CREWS' CAVALRY BRIGADE,
*Seven Miles from Columbia on the Columbia and
Frog Level Road, February 23, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Colonel PORTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I sent for a boat this morning which I learn is fifteen miles above Freshly's Ferry. There was also one at Freshly's Ferry which I thought could be repaired. Left some workmen there this morning for the purpose of repairing it. The officer in charge writes me it cannot be done. There is no other flat between there and Columbia. The stream is between 400 and 500 yards wide. I think you will have considerable difficulty in crossing, unless you have some flats built. There is a ford at Freshly's, which I think your men might wade. There is one opposite this point which I think I can get my horses across with considerable difficulty. Wagons cannot cross at either. Should it rain so as to raise the river, I do not think the river could be crossed at either ford. I think there is no enemy near the river on the other side. I sent out scouts this morning. Hardly think I will hear from them to-night, as there will be some difficulty in their crossing the river. The enemy has destroyed nearly all the forage in this vicinity. It is extremely difficult to get any forage for horses. I dispatched you late yesterday evening and this morning. Have not heard from you since I left Newberry.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

C. C. CREWS,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
Chesterville, S. C., February 23, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Major-General CHEATHAM,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: Lieut. Gen. Wade Hampton directs me to inclose to you the accompanying telegram just received from General Beauregard. At the present time General Hampton considers the route to Chester-ville clear, and in accordance with the instructions of the commanding general desires you to move at once by rapid marches to this place. He has received intelligence that you crossed the Ennoree River yesterday morning, and he presumes that you are now in the vicinity of Unionville, and directs me to indicate the following as the route which you should take, viz: From Unionville to cross the Broad River at Love's Ford, just below Turkey Creek, thence by Carmel Hill Post-Office to this place. He sends you a guide, the bearer of this, Private E. B. Lawson, who is well acquainted with the country. General Hampton will keep the roads on this side of Broad River leading to your line of march picketed, and

will keep you informed of any movement of the enemy. If the enemy's movements make it necessary you will diverge from the line of march indicated and join General Hampton at Yorkville. He desires you to use the cavalry with you to gain information for your protection, and requests that you will collect and bring with you all men from General Wheeler's and General Butler's commands that you may be able to find. He desires also that you will at once send a copy of these instructions and of the telegram from the commanding general to General Stewart, that he may follow the same line of march as speedily as possible. He desires you to acknowledge the receipt of this by a fresh courier sent to this place, or to meet us on the line of the Yorkville or Charlotte railroad, between this place and Yorkville, and to communicate your progress and any news that you may have of General Stewart in the same direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

CHARLOTTE, N. C., February 23, 1865.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON:

Send guide to Cheatham, and order him to join you at Chester if road is clear, otherwise by Yorkville. Order him to make rapid marches. Send same instructions to General Stewart.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

Report of effective strength of Lee's corps, February 23, 1865.

Divisions.	Brigades.	Effective total.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
Clayton's <i>a</i>	Stovall's <i>b</i>	343	449	492
	Jackson's	81	142	135
Johnson's <i>c</i>	Deas'	277	388	443
	Manigault's	285	314	422
Stevenson's <i>d</i>	Pettus'	780	535	602
	Palmer's <i>e</i>	553	160	855
Kanapaux's	Battery	81	84	88
Maxwell's	Light Battery	32	37	38
Sum total		2,032	2,109	3,075

a Baker's brigade, of Clayton's division, absent, en route from Mobile, Ala.

b Fifty-second Georgia Regiment, Stovall's brigade, detailed as guard to train from Columbus, Miss.

c Sharp's and Brantly's brigades left in Mississippi by order of General Beauregard.

d Cumming's brigade, of Stevenson's division, absent with General Hardee.

e Fifty-fourth Virginia Regiment, Palmer's brigade, guard to train from Columbus, Miss.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEAR CHARLOTTE, N. C.

BURGAW, N. C., February 23, 1865—1 p. m.

(Received 4.15 p. m. 25th.)

General J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond :

My observation in returning from Richmond satisfies me that a considerable element in our military resources is being lost by furloughing

our returned prisoners. Even their transportation seriously embarrasses us. Many will be captured, and but few can possibly rejoin their commands in time for opening campaign. Concentrated in some healthy camp in Virginia or North Carolina and provisionally organized, they would form an important reserve at this crisis, even if not physically fit for an active campaign.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

FEBRUARY 23, 1865.

Col. JOHN B. SALE,

Raleigh :

(Care of Governor Vance.)

We evacuated Wilmington yesterday morning, bringing off everything of value. Enemy made but feeble pursuit. Both armies now stationary. Our headquarters near Burgaw Station.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *February 23, 1865.*

(Received 24th.)

General BRAGG,

Teachey's :

General Johnston applies for Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, assistant adjutant-general. If you can spare him order him to report to General Johnston at or near Charlotte.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,

February 23, 1865—8 a. m.

General HÉBERT:

The commanding general desires you to put your negro force in motion for Goldsborough, under a proper officer, and a suitable number of managers, with instructions to repair the roads, bridges, &c., thoroughly as they go along. You, with your other officers and engineer troops, will continue to move with the army.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,

Camp near Burgaw Station, February 23, 1865—10 a. m.

General HOKE:

General Bragg desires to know whether there is any indication of movements by the enemy in your rear which would require the trains here to move on. Unless pressed back he wishes the cavalry to remain on the Northeast.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FEBRUARY 23, 1865.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: There are no indications of a move thus far. Do not think it necessary to send on the trains.

Respectfully, yours,

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

BURGAW, *February 23, 1865—6 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Raleigh:

Dispatch received. I am making such dispositions for defense of Fayetteville as my means allow.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 23, 1865.*
(Received 2.35 o'clock.)

General GORGAS:

Do the authorities appreciate the importance of Fayetteville? Eight cotton factories here, machinery of navy ordnance works, coal and iron of Deep River country, besides what we have.

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

[Indorsement.]

RICHMOND, *February 21, 1865.*

Respectfully referred to the honorable Secretary of War for his information.

J. GORGAS,
Chief of Ordnance.

FEBRUARY 23, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

Two strong companies infantry and a battery will be sent to-morrow to operate on Cape Fear near Elizabethtown. General Bragg desires you to make every effort to obstruct the river, communicating with the detachment from here.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 23, 1865.*

General BRAGG,
Burgaw:

My own force, operatives, &c., number 250; 100 or 200 others may join; 1,000 re-enforcements might make a good defense. Advise me of movements in this direction on east or west bank. Have they cavalry?

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

BURGAW, *February 23, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS, *Fayetteville:*

General Bragg directs me to say, impossible for us, in present position, to know enemy's movements on Cape Fear. Enemy have little or no cavalry. Small mounted force pushed to front will, therefore, keep you informed. Have scouts well out, and obstruct river as much as possible. Place field battery in position to prevent passage of transports.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Chesterville, S. C.:

Enemy's present movement will seriously endanger militia under General Garlington. Send him telegram of to-day (after reading it) addressed to your care.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Important Appeal.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, N. C., February 23, 1865.

To delay the advance of the enemy until our troops can be massed in strength sufficient to crush them, I appeal to all good and patriotic citizens in the region of country threatened by the enemy to turn out in full force all available labor, with axes, spades, and mattocks, to destroy and obstruct roads leading toward Charlotte from the south, commencing first along the roads leading to Landsford, and other crossings between that point and the railroad bridge, obstructing at the same time all roads parallel to the river within the following limits: The Pleasant Valley road, on the east, to a point opposite Landsford; thence across the Catawba to Fishing Creek; thence up said creek to the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad. Afterward the work should be continued farther up the river, should the enemy threaten an advance in that direction. The negroes should be assembled at the following points, viz, Charlotte, Pleasant Valley, Belair, Landsford, Fort Mills, and Rock Hill, under the direction of their owners, each with six days' provisions, cooking utensils, and blankets. As far as possible the negroes will be employed at points not distant from their homes. They will be protected by guards, and assisted by the home guards of the State. An engineer officer will be at each of the points of rendezvous to give proper direction to the labor of all who will now join us in the struggle to stay and destroy the ruthless invaders of our homes.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHARLOTTE, *February 23, 1865.*

I earnestly appeal to the people of North Carolina to comply promptly with this request. I am satisfied they could render no greater service to their country.

Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 23, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

Wilmington was evacuated at 7 a. m. 22d instant. I saw General Bragg at his headquarters ten miles this side. He had advised our friends to pass to Cheraw. I return by first train.

D. H. HAMILTON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865—7 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. A. C. GARLINGTON,

On Way to Camden, S. C.:

(Care of General Hampton.)

Enemy's movement being reported eastward toward Catawba River, it is advisable you should report forthwith to General Hampton at or about Chesterville with the forces under your command, for the defense of that portion of the State of South Carolina now threatened.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 24, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,

Petersburg, Va.:

General Beauregard telegraphs from Charlotte, the 23d instant, as follows:-

Enemy's movement from Winnsborough toward Catawba River seems to be more positive. He has withdrawn from vicinity of Chesterville, which will enable Cheatham and Stewart to reach here via Newberry and Unionville. Enemy may now probably move on Cheraw and Fayetteville. I have given orders accordingly to General Hardee. Could not all our forces be united at once against Grant?

This indicates that Sherman's main column is directed to the east. It may be that he has not advanced beyond Columbia and will move for supplies to Wilmington.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,

February 24, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Enemy may be making for the Pedee Valley in search of subsistence. Hardee, in Cheraw, would be in position and could destroy all which cannot be removed. Horses, mules, and cattle should be driven out of reach.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS,

February 24, 1865.

General S. COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General:

Please order Colonel Harvie, Lieutenant-Colonel Mason, and all officers of the staff of the Army of Tennessee to report without delay to General Johnston, at Charlotte. I understand those named are in Richmond, and there may be others as General Johnston reports that the staff has dispersed.

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 46. }

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, February 24, 1865.

* * * * *

XIX. The following-named assistant adjutants-general are assigned to duty with General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding, &c., and will report in person to General Johnston, at Charlotte, N. C.: Col. E. J. Harvie, Lieut. Col. G. A. Henry, Maj. William Clare, Lieut. Col. A. P. Mason, Majs. P. B. Lee, K. Falconer.

* * * * *

XXV. Maj. John B. Hoge, assistant adjutant-general, will proceed without delay on special service to Raleigh, N. C., under instructions from honorable Secretary of War.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

General Taylor reports, under date of the 17th, from Meridian, Miss., as follows:

Thomas, with bulk of his army, has landed at Vicksburg, and moved out four miles east from there with pontoon train. Enemy concentrating at Pensacola. Think he will probably move simultaneously from Vicksburg, Pensacola, and Decatur.

General Johnston temporarily absent; will return to-morrow.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

Telegram 22d instant duly received. March of Hardee's troops on this place from Cheraw was changed to railroad, via Wilmington and Raleigh, on assurance of Governor Vance and General Bragg that the troops could reach here much sooner. The fall of Wilmington, however, caused the order to be immediately countermanded by General Bragg and myself.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

General Hampton reports from Chesterville yesterday evening no enemy nearer than White Oak. He is reported crossing Peay's Ferry. A large force of cavalry moved from Hopewell Church toward Rocky Mount Ferry. Butler is now across river. Hampton will put himself in front of enemy, leaving one brigade to press his rear. I have ordered Hardee to hasten his march from Cheraw. Mail courier reports Cheatham at Jones' Ferry on Ennoree morning of 22d instant. I have ordered him and Stewart here via Unionville and Chesterville, where I

may stop them temporarily. Enemy's movement would seem to indicate Cheraw and Fayetteville as their present objective point. General Taylor reports from Meridian, Miss., on the 15th, twenty-five transports loaded with troops, accompanied by General Thomas, reached Vicksburg on the 13th instant.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
In the Field, Charlotte, N. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you order the headquarters' staff of the Army of Tennessee to report to General J. E. Johnston, at or near this place, as soon as possible. The officer of the adjutant-general's department should be directed to bring with him such records as will be indispensable to a reorganization. He further orders that the troops and trains of that army (except the light artillery) as have arrived at Augusta (accompanied by Young's division of cavalry, if not indispensable to the safety of Augusta) to move to this place via Newberry, Unionville, and Yorkville, or Chesterville; should movements of enemy permit it, latter route. The light batteries of the Army of Tennessee now at Augusta and Macon will remain at those points until further orders, reporting themselves to their headquarters.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

No orders at present except to be prepared to move off everything valuable at moment's notice.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865—8.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON:
Chester, S. C.:

Movement of enemy across Wateree endangers Hardee's march on this place via Cheraw. Send him courier to warn him of his danger, and hurry him forward. I have done same from here.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865—9.45 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Chesterville, S. C.:

Can Stevenson's command act advantageously without embarrassing movements of your cavalry, by operating from Chester or Winnsborough against enemy's rear in his apparent movement eastward?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTER, *February 24, 1865—11 a. m.*

General BEAUREGARD:

He (General Stevenson) can do nothing now. Will let you know if he can strike. Command has gone. I am just moving.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Newberry, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Your dispatch of 1.30 p. m. yesterday to General Cheatham, inclosing telegram from General Beauregard, has just been received here by me. I reached here yesterday morning. Found General Cheatham had returned to this place the day before and was moving his troops by rail to Pomaria, preparatory to going round by the route indicated in General Beauregard's instructions of the 19th instant. Yesterday evening General C. went to Pomaria himself, where all the troops he had with him are encamped. There will be more, perhaps 2,000 or more, from Augusta to-morrow. I will communicate with General C. immediately, and then decide whether to move as indicated in General B.'s dispatch of yesterday or by the one indicated in instructions of 19th. I suppose General B.'s order of yesterday was based on the supposition that Cheatham was still on the march and had not returned to this place. My own opinion is we can still move by route C. started on with better hope of getting up in time than by the railroad. I cannot decide until I can see General C. again or communicate with him. I will dispatch you again.

Very respectfully,

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865—12.20 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Near Wilmington, N. C.:

Enemy has moved from Winnsborough to Catawba River, which he has crossed at several points. This may indicate a movement on Cheraw, Fayetteville, and Goldsborough, or Raleigh. Be prepared accordingly. Could not Cape Fear River be thoroughly obstructed low down to prevent him from getting supplies from Wilmington?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 16. } *In the Field, February 24, 1865.*

The following officers of the general staff are announced as chiefs of their departments at these headquarters: Maj. S. V. Reid, commissary of subsistence; Surg. T. G. Richardson, acting medical director.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Register's House, near Teachey's Depot, February 24, 1865.

General HOKE:

The commanding general desires you to use the broken-down cavalry, or any other available detachments to establish guards on all the roads in rear of Rockfish Creek, and prevent stragglers and unauthorized persons from passing. The telegraph office for your headquarters had better be where the Duplin road crosses the railway.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 24, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON, *Teachey's:*

General Baker has no place to store my supplies, and says the place is not safe. The supplies can be brought from Raleigh in four hours. Shall I send Major Sloan to have ready supplies in Raleigh? General Baker says he has other stores to occupy his houses.

H. OLADOWSKI.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. ARMIES,
February 24, 1865.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh:

GOVERNOR: The state of despondency that now prevails among our people is producing a bad effect upon the troops. Desertions are becoming very frequent and there is good reason to believe that they are occasioned to a considerable extent by letters written to the soldiers by their friends at home. In the last two weeks several hundred have deserted from Hill's corps, and as the divisions from which the greatest number of desertions have taken place are composed chiefly of troops from North Carolina they furnish a corresponding proportion of deserters. I think some good can be accomplished by the efforts of influential citizens to change public sentiment and cheer the spirits of the people. It has been discovered that despondent persons represent to their friends in the army that our cause is hopeless, and that they had better provide for themselves. They state that the number of deserters is so large in the several counties that there is no danger to be apprehended from the home guards. The deserters generally take their arms with them. The greater number are from regiments from the western part of the State. So far as the despondency of the people occasions this sad condition of affairs, I know of no other means of removing it than by the counsel and exhortation of prominent citizens. If they would explain to the people that the cause is not hopeless; that the situation of affairs, though critical, is critical to the enemy as well as ourselves; that he has drawn his troops from every other quarter to accomplish his designs against Richmond, and that his defeat now would result in leaving nearly our whole territory open to us; that this great result can be accomplished if all will work diligently and zealously; and that his successes are far less valuable in fact than in appearance, I think our sorely tried people would be induced to make one more effort to bear their sufferings a little longer, and regain some of the spirit that marked the first two years of the war. If they will, I feel confident that, with the blessing of God, what seems to be

our greatest danger will prove the means of deliverance and safety. Trusting that you will do all in your power to help us in this great emergency,

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,

General.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Macon, Ga., February 24, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

The great necessity for the services of the militia of this State for a time in the agricultural field, in connection with the fact that the State is, for the first time in some ten months, free from threatened advance of the enemy upon the interior, and the further fact that they are composed of a class of men not subject to Confederate service, induce me to withdraw them for a time from your command, that they may have a furlough till the State is again threatened by the enemy. When needed for the defense of this State, I hope to have them ready for the occasion, prepared to act with the same distinguished gallantry and patriotic devotion which has heretofore characterized their conduct upon the battle-field.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. E. BROWN.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: Your order to me to concentrate all available forces and drive back Sherman implies, of course, that you regard those forces as adequate to the object and their concentration in time practicable. In my reply by telegraph on the 22d the opposite opinion is expressed. Fuller information obtained since confirms me in that opinion. The Federal army is within the triangle formed by the three bodies of our infantry. It can, therefore, prevent their concentration or compel them to unite in its rear by keeping on its way without loss of time. It is estimated at 40,000, and was at last accounts crossing the Wateree east of Winnsborough, as if moving upon Fayetteville. The available forces are Hardee's troops arriving at Cheraw by railroad and estimated by General Beauregard at 12,000. I believe that several thousand are South Carolina militia and reserves, who will not go beyond Cheraw; Lee's corps, Army of Tennessee, near Charlotte, 3,500; Stewart's corps, Army of Tennessee, 1,200; Cheatham's corps, Army of Tennessee, 1,900. The two latter when last heard of were near Newberry. These troops, except Hardee's, have only the means of transporting cooking utensils, and, therefore, cannot operate far from railroads. The cavalry, under Lieutenant-General Hampton, amounts to about 6,000. In my opinion these troops form an army too weak to cope with Sherman. Having expressed the opinion that your order could not be executed with the means at my disposal, I have thought it my duty to give a fuller statement in support of that opinion than that contained in a brief telegram. If our troops and those of General Bragg could be united in time the progress of Sherman's army might be stopped, otherwise it may unite with that of Schofield. This junction of our forces might be made near Fayetteville.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,

General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865—4.30 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,

Army of Northern Virginia :

General Hardee has already been ordered to destroy or remove all supplies. Is it your desire he should remain under present circumstances in valley of Pedee to operate therein? He might be cut off, unless he retired on Fayetteville, thence on Goldsborough or Raleigh, which may be the intended line of march of enemy.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 25, 1865.

General BEAUREGARD,

Charlotte, N. C. :

Have no desire to retard Hardee's movements; give orders according to your judgment. If enemy turns toward Pedee, presume your movements will correspond. If you can deprive enemy of subsistence think he cannot advance. Should he advance toward Fayetteville you might unite with Bragg and defeat him.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865—7 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,

Petersburg, Va. :

General Hampton reports this evening from Rock Hill Station small force of enemy's cavalry entered Lancaster and retired last night. Infantry crossed at Rocky Mount and Peay's Ferry. No report from General Hardee.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 25, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,

Commanding, &c. :

GENERAL: In the absence of any intelligence from you I have been embarrassed on several matters of importance. Your orders of the 18th [19th] instant to Generals Cheatham and Stewart to proceed via Columbia to Statesburg or Manchester, and there take rail to Greensborough, was not received here until the 23d through General Cheatham, who reported he would move that morning in execution of the orders. Copies were immediately forwarded to General Stewart for his action and guidance. To cover this movement copies were also furnished Major-General Young, with instructions after covering the roads with sufficient force to Augusta from Columbia, Charleston, and Savannah, to send the balance of his command to open up communication with Stewart and Cheatham and protect their line of march. All the organized commands having passed here prior to any notice of this change in the movement, General Hill, at his request and in pursuance of what I understood to be your wishes, was relieved and ordered to report to you. He thought he could be more useful to you in the field than here. Concurring in this view, and for the reasons stated, I relieved him. Had the information been known to me of the new change of movement I should

have retained him. Not being able to anticipate what new combinations might take place, and in view of the change, regarding the route via Washington and Abbeville as not practicable at present, I directed all our wagons to move in this direction, so that they might be at hand for future orders.

I forward you a copy of a letter from General Taylor in relation to the wants of his department. The means to supply them are not in our power. Dispatches from him show that he is apprehensive of being overrun. They have been sent to you. In view of this I have directed all the surplus commissary stores of that department to be collected this side of the Chattahoochee for our future wants. General Taylor has likewise notified General Cobb that he must fortify and defend Columbus and West Point, and in consequence of this Governor Brown has notified General Fry this morning that he has ordered away all the militia of Georgia from this place. The effect of this movement will uncover this place and expose it to a raid from Charleston and Savannah. I have so telegraphed Governor Brown. In the event that he has this order executed I shall retain here the troops now organized under Generals Featherston and Shelley, to maintain the lines defending this place, and as General Young is the ranking officer, will assign him to command all the forces of the district. This is necessary as there should be but one responsible and controlling head. I will be glad to hear from you on these subjects and receive your instructions. I would have followed General Hill, but the new change in events induced me to remain. I would especially be glad to know what to do with the furloughed commands as they arrive and are organized.

I am, respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,

Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,

Charlotte, March 9, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to General Johnston.

Major-General Young has been ordered, if he has not yet covered the Santee, to remain in vicinity of Augusta, to protect that place against expeditions sent out from Charleston and Savannah, and to destroy the railroad, if possible, between Branchville and Charleston, and to use every means in his power to prevent the running of trains to Branchville, S. C. All the wagons of the Army of Tennessee have been ordered to this point, and the orders were vetoed on the 7th instant, with instructions if they had not yet started from Augusta, that the 2,000,000 rounds of small ammunition referred to by Colonel Kennard in his dispatch of the 6th be brought over in the advance and supply trains of the army. Orders have also been given for troops arriving in Augusta to be collected, organized, and sent forward under proper officers.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,

General.

MACON, GA., *February 25, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

The present orders are that the army trains shall be used to carry Major Molloy's stores across the break. Colonel Kennard orders

Captain Humphreys to ship to Camak all his ordnance stores, of which he has 700 wagon loads that have arrived by rail. What portion of these trains shall be devoted to transport ordnance stores? I know not which are the most immediately needed.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

UNIONVILLE, S. C., *February 25, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

GENERAL: I have just received information that a raid in force under the direction of General Stoneman is now in preparation, having for its object the upper districts of the State. Colonel Palmer is, I understand, at Asheville with a small force said to be badly organized. If the State militia and the State Cadets are with your forces I will thank you to detach them; and to Colonel Goodwyn, who commands these troops, I have given directions where to march them. It is to this force that the security of the State can only be intrusted; there is no other force in the State. General Hardee promised me that as soon as he could spare these troops from the lines around Charleston he would send them to me. They had been spared to him under great disadvantages. Unless I can get these troops here, if the raid of General Stoneman is executed, it will waste the whole State. If these troops are not with your army you may be able to direct the courier where he can find Colonel Goodwyn, who is in command of the brigade.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. G. MAGRATH.

The raid is said to be organizing in Cocke County, Tenn.

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 1. }

CHARLOTTE, N. C.,
February 25, 1865.

In obedience to the orders of the general-in-chief the undersigned assumes command of the Army of Tennessee and all troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. He takes this position with strong hope, because he will have in council and in the field the aid of the high talents and skill of the distinguished general whom he succeeds. He exhorts all absent soldiers of the Army of Tennessee to rejoin their regiments and again confront the enemy they so often encountered in Northern Georgia, and always with honor. He assures his comrades of that army who are still with their colors that the confidence in their discipline and valor which he has publicly expressed is undiminished.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

NEWBERRY, S. C., *February 25, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

I arrived here day before yesterday. Found General Cheatham had returned to this place from the direction of Unionville and was sending his troops to Pomaria preparatory to moving by route indicated in your instructions of 19th. On yesterday your telegram of 23d and

instructions of same date from General Hampton to General Cheatham were received. I suppose they were based upon the supposition that Cheatham was marching on and had not returned to this point. However, an examination of the rivers proves that it will require several days, possibly a week, to cross the Broad and Wateree and reach Manchester. I am of opinion, in which Cheatham concurs, that we cannot get round by that route to the point indicated in time. I shall, therefore, march to Unionville and thence direct our march according to information we may receive from General Hampton. Cheatham will move from Pomaria in the morning. Some troops under Loring and Lowry are expected here to-day. If they arrive I will start from here to-morrow, and will press forward as rapidly as possible. It seems unfortunate that General Cheatham did not continue his march, though he acted under the impression that it was your intention from the order of the 19th that he should return and take the other route. Considerable rains have made the roads heavy and our progress will not be so rapid as I could desire.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. —. }

HEADQUARTERS,
Newberry, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Capt. B. Kavanaugh, commanding detachment First Alabama Cavalry, will take charge of the prisoners at this point (Captain Brazier and twenty-five men) and move to-morrow morning at sunrise with three days' cooked rations, taking the road to Jones' Ferry on the Ennoree, and then toward Unionville. He will also take with him the horses (thirty or thirty-one) which were brought from Laurensville and which were taken from these men. He will get from Captain Walker, commanding post, all the papers relating to these men, and horses and men will be turned over to General Hampton at the proper time. Captain Kavanaugh will march a little in advance of the infantry column and camp each night near by. During the march he will keep his men well closed up, allowing no straggling and maintaining order day and night.

By command of Lieutenant-General Stewart:

W. D. GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 25, 1865.

Maj. Gen. P. M. B. YOUNG, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I inclose you copies of communications from General Beauregard of the [19th] instant to Major-General Cheatham and one from General Cheatham to General Hill. They will advise you fully of the change of movements. Under existing circumstances you had [better,] whilst covering the roads to Augusta from the direction of Columbia and Charleston and the crossings of the Savannah River, move with a part of your command to open up communication with General Cheatham in the neighborhood of Columbia, Statesburg, or Manchester. The movement of the forces by that route should be sufficiently covered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Eave's Mill, February 25, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that having been told by an old citizen at Chester that I could probably cross both prongs of Fishing Creek, by going the Charlotte road, without swimming, I took that road, and had to swim the first fork. I was then informed by citizens that the crossing over the next prong would be very difficult, and that I had better cross the first fork again at another ford and cross the main stream at Eave's Mill. I got one brigade over the second crossing last night, and propose to put it over at Eave's Mill this morning; Colonel Hagan is still in the fork of the creeks. Will remain until I ascertain definitely whether the crossing at Eave's Mill is good or not; if not good I'll send him to cross at some other ford.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Eave's Mill, February 25, 1865—10 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Cavalry Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to say that I informed you in a previous communication that I reached this vicinity last night with one brigade; the other brigade is still in the fork between the two prongs of Fishing Creek. I find the creek so much swollen that it cannot be crossed at any point in this vicinity without great danger. I shall, accordingly, move in a northwesterly direction, so as to head these creeks. I fear that the Catawba River will be so much swollen by the time I reach it that I shall be unable to cross at Landsford, or that it may be desired that I should not do so. You will please, therefore, send any instructions you may have for me to Steele's house, north of Fishing Creek, on the Nation Ford road. I will send a courier to that point to convey the dispatch to me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 25, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that having been wrongly informed by citizens yesterday, I moved up the Charlotte road to a point beyond Lewis' Post-Office, and crossed the South Fork of Fishing Creek with the two brigades, and afterward crossed the same stream with Anderson's brigade, expecting to cross the main creek at Eave's Mill; Hagan's brigade could not make the second crossing before night. Finding this morning that the creek could not be crossed at Eave's Mill, I have turned back up the South Fork and will reach

Brattonville to-night. Hagan is moving up the main Fishing Creek and will cross at the first practicable ford. I think I will succeed in crossing at Lowry's Ford to-morrow; I greatly fear that before I reach the river it will not be fordable at Landsford. After crossing creek I shall make inquiries, and if I learn that it is not fordable at that point I shall move directly to Thorn's and Mason's Ferries and cross there. I learn there are no flats on the river below Thorn's.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION,
February 25, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to forward the following statement of a scout: Scout went into Lancaster about 12 m. yesterday and found there a scout of the enemy about forty strong. Captured a mounted infantryman (Federal), who stated that there was a division of cavalry (Federal) a few miles from Lancaster on the Brown's Ferry road. Prisoner says that the enemy's division of cavalry would encamp where it was for the night (last night). Another scout went into Lancaster late in the evening and found that the enemy had left. The prisoner captured by the first scout was recaptured on its return.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

ROCK HILL, *February 25, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Small force cavalry entered Lancaster and retired last night. No movements this morning. Infantry crossed at Rocky Mount and Peay's Ferry.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

MASSEY HOUSE, NEAR CURETON'S FERRY,
February 25, 1865—10 a. m.

General BEAUREGARD:

GENERAL: I sent dispatches to you yesterday from Fort Mills, giving you information of the movements of the enemy. He crossed at Rocky Mount and Peay's Ferry, and a small force cavalry came to Lancaster Court-House yesterday. Prisoners say that they are going to Charlotte. The roads are so bad that I doubt if the enemy moves to-day. I hope to get some artillery soon by which I can check his advance. If the Blakely guns are ready and have ammunition I should like to have them at Fort Mills. Ammunition can be sent from Richmond, if none is in Charlotte. I beg that you will order all cavalry equipments that can be had collected at Charlotte. I have directed General Wheeler to locate the enemy and to attack if possible. I shall cover the

approaches to the railroad as long as possible. One brigade was left on the south of Chester to guard that place and to communicate with General Cheatham. Butler is on the east of the enemy and I have told him to communicate with General Hardee.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865—7 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Rock Hill Station, S. C.:

I have ordered a line of couriers from here to Cheraw via Monroe and Wadesborough. You might use them to communicate with General Hardee.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEWBERRY, S. C., *February 25, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

SIR: I expect to move to-morrow with troops of mine and Cheatham's corps for Unionville, thence if practicable to Chester or Yorkville or Charlotte, according to information I may receive from you or others. You will do me the favor to forward accompanying letter to General Beauregard.*

Very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *February 25, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD, *Charlotte:*

Please advise me of Sherman's movements. If he comes by Charlotte I wish to move a large lot of quartermaster's stores.

Z. B. VANCE.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865—1.45 p. m.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

Will keep you advised. Nothing important since you left.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg

Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson is the only officer of the department on duty with me, and the only one of any field experience now available. When his place can be supplied I will not object to his joining General Johnston. My staff is very deficient, my aides-de-camp having been legislated out of service.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

Sherman is reported to have turned east at Winnsborough, and crossed the Wateree River. This indicates Fayetteville and Raleigh by the old mail-stage road, and through a country not drained of supplies. Hardee is supposed to be in his front at Cheraw. By a union of my forces with General Beauregard at Fayetteville we might strike him before he forms a junction with Schofield or gets supplies up the Cape Fear. If we lose this opportunity we shall be again divided.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte, N. C.:

If Sherman moves as you suppose we should all concentrate in his front at Fayetteville. Hardee by Cheraw, retarding his advance; you by way of Raleigh, and my forces from here and Goldsborough. General Lee might aid us, and a success be the result. Divided we can do nothing. A junction with Schofield, who has 20,000, will make Sherman very strong, but embarrass his commissariat, if we can only control the river.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte, N. C.:

A detachment is moving to the Cape Fear to obstruct river and retard the enemy. His force is too large for me to meet him with success. He has two corps under Schofield. We have but a division. Please keep Lieutenant-Colonel Childs at Fayetteville advised by telegraph of Sherman's movements, should they tend that way.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Raleigh:

The main command is at this point; the cavalry at Northeast River. The Federal commander has agreed to receive the prisoners there. See local authorities and urge their rapid transfer to that point. The governor should urge forward the organization of his State forces.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel OLADOWSKI,
Goldsborough:

Establish depot at Raleigh, and keep only current supplies at Goldsborough.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *February 25, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

Please inform me of progress of enemy. I desire to move stores, and am waiting for information.

Z. B. VANCE.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

The enemy has not advanced in this direction farther than North-east River, where we are to deliver the prisoners. Our scouts have not yet reported any movement toward Fayetteville. Sherman is reported as having turned in that direction.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

I desire to assign General Leventhorpe to command at Raleigh. If you consent, let me know of his arrival at Raleigh.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 27 [26th?], 1865—8 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

General Johnston assumed command yesterday. Enemy's position is still about same on Lancaster and Camden road, made almost impassable by heavy rains.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 26, 1865.*

Hon. G. A. TRENHOLM,
Richmond, Va.:

Route indicated perfectly safe at present, only difficulty being in mode of conveyance.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 26, 1865.

Maj. N. O. TILTON,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: In reply to your communication of this date, relative to wagon train between this point and Columbia, I have the honor to state that it is at present inexpedient to start it. As soon as I can obtain information showing that it can be established I will advise you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 26, 1865.

Maj. KINLOCH FALCONER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta:

MAJOR: You will report to Major-General Young, Augusta, for instructions temporarily.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, N. C., February 26, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE, *Cheraw, S. C.:*

GENERAL: The enemy at last accounts having been at Rocky Mount and Peay's Ferry, on the Catawba River, and it being still undetermined whether he will move thence upon this place or upon Fayetteville, N. C., via Cheraw, you will please concentrate your forces as rapidly as possible at the latter place and there hold them in readiness to move at a moment's notice, either on this point, as already instructed, or to oppose his advance as long as possible should he march by the way of Cheraw, in which event Hampton's cavalry will co-operate with you. Should any movement of Schofield from Wilmington threaten to intercept your march upon Fayetteville and you are not strong enough to give him battle you will then retire slowly in the direction of Raleigh, doing all in your power to check your adversary's advance at all favorable positions. A line of couriers has been established hence to Fayetteville, via Cheraw or Rockingham, as the movements of the enemy shall make necessary. Please keep General Bragg (who is still near Wilmington) and myself advised of your movements and of those of the enemy which may come to your knowledge. There is telegraphic communication from Fayetteville with these headquarters. Your engineers should repair forthwith the roads and bridges on the route to Fayetteville and Salisbury, including, especially, a new bridge across Rocky River. In conclusion, I will again call your attention to the importance of saving surplus stores and supplies of all description at Cheraw. To that end they should be held stored in trains, ready at the proper moment to be sent by rail either in the direction of the Santee River or toward Manchester, or even to Camden, as may become most judicious in view of known movements of the enemy. In case of a retrograde movement before the enemy you will please remove or destroy all supplies of every kind liable to fall into his hands, in which connection I inclose General Orders, No. 4, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Cheraw, S. C., February 26, 1865—2 p. m.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Commanding Military Division of the West:

GENERAL: Your dispatches have been received and your instructions will be carried out as far as practicable. The movements of the

enemy indicate an intention of going either to Darlington, Florence, or this place. I think it probable he is making for Florence or Darlington. I regret to inform you that I met with great difficulty and delay in crossing the wagons, artillery, and troops across the Santee. McLaws' division is all here except a brigade which was left at Florence, under Colonel Hardy, to protect that place until the troops, wagons, and artillery have passed. I sent instructions yesterday to General Taliaferro urgently directing him to press forward to this place with the utmost expedition. I expect a portion of his command to night, and most, perhaps all of it, may be here before the enemy shall cut the road. Much of our artillery and most of the wagons are still in rear. I have directed all those which may arrive at Florence to-day and after to remain at that place until the movements of the enemy are developed, and if the command should be compelled to fall back, to move with it. Instructions have been sent to Col. W. M. Hardy, also to General Taliaferro, if unable by movements of the enemy to join me here, to fall back toward the Santee, and to rejoin me by Sumterville and Camden.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—It is proper I should add that more of my cavalry has come up. It was the last to cross, being kept in rear to guard the crossing of the Santee. Another cause of delay and embarrassment arises from a heavy rise in the Great Pedee and its tributaries, which has carried away some important bridges on the route, thus causing the wagons and artillery to go much out of the way to reach this place. The lack of cavalry is much felt, as I am unable to learn the movements of the enemy.

W. J. HARDEE.

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 27, 1865.

Respectfully furnished Lieutenant-General Hampton.

Nothing has yet been received from General Cheatham since he was heard of between Newberry and Unionville.

Respectfully,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Return exhibiting effective total, total present, and aggregate present.

Command.	Effective total.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
Fiser's brigade	841	877	951
Harrison's brigade <i>a</i>	897	972	1,045
Conner's brigade	1,433	1,486	1,594
Hardy's brigade <i>b</i>			
Total	3,171	3,335	3,590

a The Second, Fifteenth, and part of the Twentieth Regiments, South Carolina Volunteers, are behind at Florence.

b Effective total as shown by last report, 750.

HEADQUARTERS McLAWS' DIVISION,
Cheraw, February 26, 1865.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
On Road from White Oak to Rocky Mount,
February 26, 1865—6 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

We wrote you yesterday by a scouting party from the Eighth Confederate that the enemy had all crossed the river and that we would move down toward Peay's Ferry and Camden and try to cross, and sent out scouts night before last to ascertain the condition of things, when they found every boat destroyed and no means of crossing the river. Wateree Creek was past fording, and we moved up it and got upon this road and are moving this morning to Landsford and will cross the Catawba first chance. Our men ran out of rations yesterday and every mill on this side has been burned by the enemy, consequently we will move as rapidly as possible until we can get out of this section and to where we can get rations, and will overtake you as soon as possible. If we had been one day sooner could have got 100 stragglers. It would be of great service to people to have a force in the rear all the while to prevent these stragglers committing so many depredations. If we can cross at Landsford will do so; aim to reach that vicinity to-night, and would be glad to receive orders as to what to do there. Unless otherwise ordered shall move up to the command, unless I can see an opportunity of accomplishing something in the rear.

The enemy have large droves of cattle and very large wagon trains, all guarded by infantry. Sometimes large guards and at others small. Negroes report they hung eighteen Confederate soldiers in retaliation for killing theirs, but I can't find out certainly. They say it was done between Wateree Meeting-House and Rocky Mount. I have sent a scout down this side the creek to learn certainly. They burned a great many houses through the country, robbed every one, have caused negroes to take everything they wanted out of houses, and defied the owners to molest them. We yesterday saw a Mrs. Mobly (whose husband is in Second South Carolina Cavalry), an intelligent lady, living in a negro cabin, and her negroes in possession of her clothing, bedding, bacon, &c. I sent a detail and had it all gathered up and returned and her moved to another house. Such is the case wherever they go. A small party could accomplish much for citizens in regulating negroes. I am more than willing to bring up the rear if I can so arrange it as to feed the men, and hope not to be bothered by high waters again. It has rained incessantly and every creek is overflowed. The Yankees cleaned out every horse, mule, and cow in their line. Their infantry treat citizens much worse than cavalry. All express the greatest horror at the idea of falling into the hands of Wheeler's cavalry.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, &c.

CHARLOTTE, *February 26, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Rockfish Creek, near Wilmington, N. C.:

Should enemy move as supposed the plan proposed is the best, if concentration can be made in time, especially before Sherman and Schofield could unite. Johnston now commands here.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, *February 27, 1865.*General R. E. LEE:
(Via Richmond.)

I have seen Lee's corps, Army of Tennessee, to-day. Effective total, 2,100. Lieutenant-General Hampton reports that Federal prisoners say their army is moving to this point. It is near Lancaster, delayed by bad roads.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 48. } *Richmond, February 27, 1865.*

* * * * *

XL. Paragraph II, General Orders, No. 6, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, February 14, 1865, is hereby revoked and Brig. Gen. Gideon J. Pillow, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to General J. E. Johnston, commanding, &c., for assignment to the duty of collecting and forwarding to proper commands all absentees from the armies of the Confederate States who may be found without the limits of General Johnston's command.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,
No. —. } *Cheraw, S. C., February 27, 1865.*

Fiser's brigade, of McLaws' division, will move with a battery of light artillery at daybreak to-morrow morning and take position at Chesterfield. Colonel Fiser will endeavor to get information of the enemy's whereabouts and movements and communicate the same promptly to these headquarters. As there will be no cavalry in his front, he will take every precaution against surprise. Lieutenant Memminger will report with as many mounted men of the signal corps as he can assemble to Colonel Fiser for temporary duty.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

D. H. POOLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,
No. —. } *Cheraw, S. C., February 27, 1865.*

Harrison's brigade, of McLaws' division, will proceed to-morrow morning on the Cheraw and Camden road and take position seven or eight miles from Cheraw. Colonel Harrison will report military information direct to these headquarters. There is no cavalry on that front.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

D. H. POOLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from field return of McLaws' division for February 27, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty equipped.		Effective total present.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
	Officers.	Men.			
Fiser's brigade.....			847	875	932
Harrison's brigade.....			897	972	1,045
Conner's brigade.....			1,433	1,486	1,594
Hardy's brigade.....			750	860	913
Blanchard's brigade.....			411	448	503
Jones' battalion artillery.....			206	320	332
Grand total.....			4,634	4,961	5,319

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
In the Field, February 27, 1865.

Col. J. M. OTEY, Asst. Adjt. Gen., Charlotte, N. C. :

COLONEL: I have the honor to make, for the information of General Johnston, the following statement, with reference to the organization, &c., of Lee's corps: When moving from Tupelo, Miss., to Augusta, Ga., Lee's corps, then in hand and in good condition, with about 5,500 muskets, received orders for and made the following changes in its organization, viz: Sharp's and Brantly's brigades, of Johnson's division, were furloughed by organizations and left in that department; nothing heard from them at these headquarters since. Gibson's and Holtzclaw's brigades, of Clayton's division, were transferred with Jackson's and Baker's brigades, the former present with less than 100 muskets; the latter not joined, supposed to be with General Cheatham's column. Cumming's brigade, Stevenson's division, detached at Orangeburg, S. C., to re-enforce General McLaws, under promise from General Hardee that it should be sent by rail to Columbia, is now with General Hardee. Fifty fourth Virginia, Palmer's brigade, Stevenson's division, Forty-second Georgia, Stovall's brigade, Clayton's division, were detached at Rienzi, Miss., as a guard to wagon train to Columbus, Miss.; was ordered thence by water and rail to Augusta; is believed to be with General Cheatham. The artillery of the corps was concentrated at Columbus, Miss., and ordered to move the wheels by water and rail to Augusta, the horses overland. Johnston's battalion, Stevenson's division, were at Macon, Ga., on the 5th instant. The wagon train of the corps and horses of the field officers were ordered from Tupelo, via West Point and Macon, to Augusta, Ga.; were forty miles north of Selma when last heard from.

Strength present.

	Effective.	Total.	Aggregate.
Stevenson's division:			
Pettus' brigade.....	430	485	602
Palmer's brigade.....	578	735	855
Johnson's division:			
Deas' brigade.....	317	318	443
Manigault's brigade.....	290	309	422
Clayton's division:			
Stovall's brigade.....	378	412	492
Jackson's brigade.....	101	122	155
Temporarily attached: Kanapaux's battery.....	81	84	88
Section Maxwell's battery.....	32	37	38
Total.....	2,207	2,502	3,095

The failure to extend to the troops of Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina, when passing their homes, the same indulgences as had been granted to those of Mississippi, gave much dissatisfaction and caused large numbers to leave the ranks en route. I believe they intended to remain home but a short time and return, but the recent movements of the enemy will prevent them from doing so. A detail of efficient and reliable officers under the charge of an experienced general officer would, I think, collect most of the absentees in a short time. At Tupelo a system of furloughs (one to fifteen) similar to that ordered by General Johnston, at Dalton, was adopted and is now in operation. I respectfully recommend that it be continued until all entitled thereto receive its benefit.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, &c.,
Charlotte, March 5, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to General Johnston for his information.

Sharp's (Mississippi) brigade (219 effectives) and Brantly's (195 effectives) were furloughed about the 17th of January, to rendezvous at Meridian on the 1st of February, thence to rejoin the corps on the way to Augusta. Baker's (Alabama) brigade (about 600 effectives), long stationed at Mobile, was temporarily transferred with Holtzclaw's (Alabama) brigade (about 500 effectives) to enable the latter to refit and recruit. Jackson's (Georgia) brigade (101 effectives) was temporarily transferred with Gibson's (Louisiana) brigade (262 effectives) to enable them to recruit in their respective States. At the time these transfers were made Lee's corps only was expected to have been sent east. Now that Cheatham's corps has been ordered in the same direction, Jackson's brigade will necessarily have to return to its proper command, while Gibson's brigade will remain detached until it can be returned by Lieutenant-General Taylor, who was authorized to keep it (as well as Sharp's and Brantly's brigades, should he require them), on allowing Stewart's corps, except French's division, to come east, for he had been authorized by the President to retain, if necessary, this corps, *i. e.*, the old Mississippi army, which General Taylor allowed to depart provided he could retain the brigades already named, *i. e.*, Gibson's, Sharp's, and Brantly's. A ten days' furlough was granted at Tupelo, by General Hood (with my approval), to those Mississippi troops, because they would have had to wait several days for railroad transportation to Montgomery, whilst by allowing them to rendezvous at Meridian, on the 1st February, they could visit their homes to refit themselves and be at Augusta nearly as soon as the rest of the command, which would have been the case, probably, had not General Taylor found it necessary to retain them as already stated in the place of General Stewart's corps, less French's division. The recommendation that a detail of efficient and reliable officers be sent to collect absentees is approved and has been ordered. The system of furloughs adopted or ordered at Tupelo is also approved and should be carried out.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,

Charlotte, February 27, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,

Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: In reply to your letter of yesterday General Beauregard directs me to say that he has ordered General Stevenson to send you a section of 12-pounder howitzers, if possible; and, if not, a section of Napoleons, since the Blakely guns have no equipment or ammunition, and, furthermore, since the ammunition cannot be obtained this side of Richmond. The railroad bridge will admit of dismounted cavalry crossing in single rank, but, owing to its construction, it will not admit of being floored. Young's cavalry has been ordered, as General Beauregard is informed, to operate from Augusta in the direction of Columbia. However, if it can cross the Santee you are authorized to order it to report to you. I inclose you a copy of the last letter from Lieutenant-General Hardee for your information.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., February 27, 1865—7 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,

Fort Mills, S. C.:

Those two pieces are without artillerists and horses. Shall I send them as they are? Answer.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,

Near Nation Ford, S. C., February 27, 1865—11 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,

Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I am crossing my command over the railroad bridge at this point as rapidly as possible. I learn that I shall have to go up to Morrow's Station in order to get over the streams between this and Lancaster, as the creeks are swollen and deep. I have already lost much ammunition by swimming creeks. I think it best not to undertake to swim those between this point and Lancaster. After crossing Sugar Creek I shall move toward Lancaster, or so as to join you. Please send a courier to meet me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,

Near Morrow's Station, N. C., February 27, 1865—6 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,

Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I have been compelled to pass through Morrow's Station in order to cross Sugar Creek.

I shall move down the Lancaster road at an early hour to-morrow morning for the purpose of rejoining the corps. I shall send out scouts to-night to learn where the enemy is, and also where corps headquarters are.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS BUTLER'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 27, 1865—12.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,

Commanding Troops Near Society Hill and Cheraw :

GENERAL: I encountered the Fifteenth Army Corps, General Logan commanding, at Tiller's Bridge this morning, engaged them, and captured some prisoners. Their foragers have extended from the river as far as Kellytown, where I am now encamped. On the 24th the Fifteenth Corps, leading the enemy's advance, moved from Flat Rock, in Kershaw District, and encamped near Porter's Bridge, on Little Lynch's Creek. The Seventeenth Corps was then moving from the Catawba River above Liberty Hill toward Flat Rock. The Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps at that date were in rear of the other two corps. The general movement of Sherman's forces at that time was understood to be upon Camden, which, I presume, was occupied on the 23d and 24th. The Fifteenth Corps, which has been encamped on the south side of Lynch's Creek for two days, seems to have halted to await the arrival of the other three corps. Their next movement will probably be developed to-morrow, whether on Cheraw or toward Florence I have not been able to form any definite conclusion. I think that if our troops were concentrated now and thrown rapidly upon the Fifteenth Corps very serious damage may be inflicted. If the enemy turn down Lynch's Creek I will endeavor to cross over into Sumter District and get in front of them. I should be glad to have all the available mounted men sent to me as soon as possible. It is very desirable that some force be sent to hold the bridges on Lynch's Creek and the country between that stream and the Pedee River, so that I may be able to effect the withdrawal of my command from Sumter or Williamsburg District. I have not been in communication with General Hampton or General Beauregard since the 21st instant. After leaving Winnborough I was ordered to attempt to reach the rear of the enemy, who was then moving on Chester, the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps on the east side of the railroad constituting his Right Wing, and the Fourteenth and Twentieth, his Left Wing, on the west side. The enemy changed direction on the 21st toward the Catawba River and Camden. I have been on his left flank ever since. Prisoners taken on the 23d report Sherman's army to have only five days' rations, and were moving toward Wilmington or Georgetown. He has been foraging very extensively along his line of march, no house within reach of his main column has been passed by, and all supplies have been taken from the inhabitants by foraging parties of infantry mounted on captured horses.

Respectfully,

M. C. BUTLER,
Major-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 27, 1865.*

General BRAGG, or
General HOKE,
Goldsborough:

I have received orders to report at Richmond with my entire command. I shall leave at once with those here. Will you order Lieutenant-Commander Evans, with his detachment, to report at Richmond also?

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag Officer, C. S. Navy.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
February 27, 1865.

General HOKE,
Commanding Third District:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that all men belonging to Lieutenant Bain's signal corps, not detailed by authority superior to that of the commander of this department, be immediately returned to their companies, if these are in your district. Their horses, if public property, will be turned over to your chief quartermaster. The remainder of the signal corps you can employ to the best advantage.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 27, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

Should cotton and naval stores be destroyed in front of a raiding party near the river? Should they be destroyed at Fayetteville factories before any force of the enemy too large to be successfully resisted?

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

FEBRUARY 27, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

What rolling-stock is there on railroad from Fayetteville to Coal Fields? Impress negroes sufficient to conduct work of obstructing river, which should be pushed vigorously. Captain Winder will be sent to you. Strange's company cannot be spared.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 27, 1865.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Goldsborough:

Rolling-stock on Western Railroad—2 locomotives, 2 coaches, 3 box-cars, 13 flat and 12 dirt cars. Lieutenant Ashe, at Elizabeth, attending to obstructions.

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

RALEIGH, *February 27, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

I have two regiments of detailed men that I can call into service if you desire. Please inform me of your wishes.

TH. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

CONCORD, *February 27, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Bad management of railroad. Thirty-eight hours to this place and no prospect of getting on; two trains at this place waiting orders to move.

W. F. AVENT,
Major, &c.

CHARLOTTE, *February 28, 1865.*

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

I respectfully urge that four months' pay be immediately given to the troops of this department, and a small part in specie to each private, and that the money be sent to Major Deslonde—four months for 20,000 men.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, *February 28, 1865.*

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

The Navy Department has a quantity of coffee here. It would be very valuable to our troops. I suggest its transfer.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHERAW, *February 28, 1865—12 m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: Since my dispatch to you yesterday I learn from Major General Butler that the Seventeenth Army Corps crossed yesterday at Young's Bridge, on Lynch's Creek, and that the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps are marching on this place. His dispatch was dated at 6 p. m. yesterday at Kellytown. General Butler stated his intention of moving last night, so as to get between Cheraw and the enemy. I regret to state that the troops I mentioned as being in rear, and which I expected here last night with the artillery, have not arrived. There has been no arrival of trains since yesterday afternoon. I have sent down an engine to learn the cause. I do not apprehend that the road is cut, but that there has been some collision I have no doubt. This road, like all others in the Confederacy, is wretchedly managed. With proper management I ought to have had everything here by this time. I have serious apprehensions that the troops in rear will not reach here before I am compelled to evacuate the place. This matter gives me serious concern, but I have the satisfaction of feeling that I have used

every exertion and taken every precaution to insure their safety. A rapid march of the enemy will bring him here to-morrow. If he takes the direct road to this place I shall oppose him at Thompson's Creek.

With high respect, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Since writing a train with troops has arrived and I have reason to hope that those behind, the track being now open, will soon be here.

W. J. H.

CHARLOTTE, *February 28, 1865.*

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE, *Raleigh:*

Should Sherman come this way I recommend the neighborhood of Danville. Should he turn toward Fayetteville, Salisbury would be safe.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 49. } *Richmond, February 28, 1865.*

* * * * *
IX. Capt. T. H. Jordan, assistant adjutant-general, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty with W. W. Allen's brigade (Col. James Hagan commanding), of Wheeler's cavalry corps. He will report to General Joseph E. Johnston, at Charlotte, N. C.

* * * * *
XI. Maj. J. B. Dorman, assistant adjutant-general, Provisional Army, C. S., now on duty at Camp of Instruction, near this city, is assigned to duty with Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, at Augusta, Ga., and will report accordingly.

* * * * *
By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SCAIFE'S FERRY, S. C.,
February 28, 1865—4.50 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. A. P. STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: I have just arrived at the ferry.. I find the river so full that it is very difficult to cross, there being no means of crossing but by poling the flat. I send a scout across the river and go to work to prepare oars for the purpose of rowing across. I shall not be able to cross my squadron to-night. I see citizens directly from Chesterville, who report no enemy between here and that place, nor near there. All reports seem to concur that the enemy is crossing the Catawba River at and below Rocky Mount, while our forces are crossing above that point. This is only current rumor and not definite. I will report again as soon as I hear from the scouts sent out.

Very respectfully, &c.,

D. W. BIZZELL,
Captain, Commanding Third Arkansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 28, 1865. (Received 10.30.)

General B. BRAGG,
Goldsborough, N. C.:

Keep advised of Johnston's route. Communicate with General Johnston at Charlotte. Unite with him as you propose for a blow on Sherman when practicable.

R. E. LEE,
General.

FEBRUARY 28, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Charlotte*:

Following just from Colonel Childs, Fayetteville:

I learn from General Hardee the enemy crossed Lynch's Creek in some force at Tillersville. Intention not yet developed; that their movements point at present to Darlington and Florence, with the view, he believes, of moving to Wilmington.

Childs learns through pickets enemy are repairing Brunswick railroad bridge on Wilmington and Manchester Railroad. I have ordered him to have bridges and railroad below Lumberton destroyed; also on Wilmington and Manchester Railroad from Pedee up.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, February 28, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,

Commanding Department of North Carolina, Goldsborough:

GENERAL: The campaign of the army under General Johnston is so rapidly culminating to the decisive point that I greatly desire, if I am to join it at all, to enter upon my duties there immediately. As Colonel Sale, commissioned in the Adjutant-General's Department and under orders to report here, can now join you without inconvenience, and as Major Parker possesses a competent knowledge of the details of business, I feel warranted in saying that my place could be supplied without detriment to the public interests, and I therefore respectfully ask that you give me the order indicated by General Lee. Having already explained that the motive for this request is one of professional advancement, growing out of views of the functions of the general staff which I know you also entertain, I have only to add that I have never had more agreeable and instructive service than at your headquarters, and that I shall always retain the most grateful recollection of your kindness and of the confidential intercourse with which you have honored me.

I am, general, with great respect, your faithful, obliged servant,
ARCHER ANDERSON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.,
February 28, 1865—1.30 p. m. (Received 6.35.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Rocky Point, near Wilmington, N. C.:

As Fayetteville may be our future point of concentration, will you order all roads and bridges repaired forthwith to it from Warsaw, Smithfield, and Raleigh?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 28, 1865.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Raleigh:

Join me here, leaving your records with Mr. Scott. Who is commanding now in Raleigh?

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *February 28, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

Your dispatch of to-day just received. Col. F. M. Parker, Thirtieth North Carolina Regiment, commands here. I will join you on the 2d.

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 28, 1865.

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch received. Will be attended to. Please have all mail for my command sent to Teachey's Depot.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Duplin Road, February 28, 1865. (Received 8.45 p. m.)

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Goldsborough:

One of my scouts just returned. The other has gone into Wilmington. The enemy have crossed troops to the opposite side of Cape Fear; camps are considerable. No boats have been up the river. Evidences of a march up Cape Fear on opposite side. Will inform you fully when other scouts return. Engines and cars on Manchester road.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Duplin Road, February 28, 1865. (Received 11 p. m.)

Colonel ANDERSON,
Goldsborough:

If Sherman continued to his right he would soon get to a point on the Manchester road, and having stock on that road could soon throw his troops to Wilmington from this point. He could demonstrate into the interior and throw his troops to Grant. I know nothing of his movements, and only suggest this, thinking that Grant might suppose he could overwhelm General Lee by overwhelming numbers.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FEBRUARY 28, 1865.

Colonel THRUSTON, *Company's Shops*:

General Bragg wishes you to induce people there to volunteer temporarily for special defense of shops against raid, and include in organization all detailed men on railroad.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COMPANY'S SHOPS,
February 28, 1865. (Received 6.45.)

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Goldsborough:

No local force here except exempts, which I have no authority to control. No detailed men here. Telegraph me instructions. No answer from telegram yesterday on same subject.

S. D. THRUSTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

FEBRUARY 28, 1865.

Colonel CHILDS, *Fayetteville*:

Keep Ashe. Authority is given to impress horses for pickets. General Bragg directs you destroy trestle on railroad below Lumberton, and be in readiness to burn bridge over Lumber River on approach of enemy. Destroy any part of road below Lumberton you can.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 28, 1865.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I learn from General Hardee the enemy crossed Lynch's Creek in some force at Tillersville. Intention not yet developed; that their movements point at present to Darlington and Florence, with the view, he believes, of moving to Wilmington.

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 28, 1865.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I learn through pickets that the enemy are repairing Brunswick railroad bridge, on the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad.

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

FEBRUARY 28, 1865.

Colonel CHILDS, *Fayetteville*:

General Bragg directs that as much of railway below Lumberton as possible be immediately destroyed; also bridges over Pedee, Little Pedee, and Lumber Rivers, on Wilmington and Manchester Railroad,

and all trestle-work from Pedee up. Organize small parties of determined men to do this instantly. Best way to destroy trestle is to cut away both ends with axes; rest falls. Report your arrangements for this work.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 28, 1865—1 p. m.*
Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Fort Mills, S. C.:

Wheeler's division of cavalry and wagons, if sent to Nation Ford, could cross on cars. Let me know when these may be required.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 28, 1865—10.30 p. m.*
Lient. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Fort Mills, S. C.:

Butler writes from Kellytown on the 27th that Fifteenth Corps was encamped at Porter's Bridge, on Little Lynch's Creek, since 24th. Other corps thence toward Camden, intending doubtless to march on Cheraw or Florence. Prisoners say they have only five days' rations and they are moving toward Wilmington or Georgetown. Your letter to Sherman is approved.*

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 28, 1865.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: I avail myself of the earliest opportunity to offer you, in behalf of the State, my thanks for the defense of the town of Aiken, and the protection given in that defense to the population of that town. To be saved, as was that town and its population, from the ruthless foes by which it was attacked calls not only for the thanks of those immediately exposed, but to the grateful remembrance of all classes of our citizens. To you, and through you to that portion of your command which participated in the conflict for the possession of Aiken, I tender you the thanks of the State.

I am, general, respectfully, &c.,

A. G. MAGRATH.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT, U. S. A.,
Richmond, March 1, 1865.

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War:

From information received this morning I fear the answer I sent you as to sending letters through without material delay to the southwest may require correction. I am now informed that the gauge of the rail-

road between Charlotte and Greensborough is being changed, and that the trains will not run through for some days. I mention this so that you may provide for any communications requiring special dispatch, as we cannot organize a line of postal communication in time to meet this necessity.

Very respectfully,

JOHN H. REAGAN,
Postmaster-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 1, 1865.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

MY DEAR SIR: General Lee has written to me in regard to desertions from the army, and states that, while they occur among the troops from every State, they are most numerous just at present from those of North Carolina. This must spring from the importunity of friends at home, and I know of nothing that can be done, in addition to the means already employed, except to improve the condition of public feeling in the several States. I send you a line, not to stimulate you—far from it, for I have read your recent speech at Goldsborough—but to apprise you that the evil is alarming, and to urge you to invoke every influence that can be brought to bear to revive a patriotic and self-sacrificing spirit. I will write also to the authorities and to individuals in other States. The numbers furnished and the deeds performed by the troops of North Carolina forbid the belief that she will give way at this crisis of a hard-pressed cause. I will be happy to hear from you at any time, and am, yours, very truly,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

[MARCH 1, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations in the Carolinas, see Part I, p. 1044.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 1, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Charlotte, N. C.:

Your dispatch with regard to funds received. Impossible to obtain money at present. Will write to you to-night.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 1, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I received this morning and answered your telegram of the 28th ultimo in regard to money for payment of your troops. The occupation of Columbia by the enemy and other causes have embarrassed

the operations of the Treasury Note Bureau; but, aside from this difficulty, I am sorry to say that the Secretary of the Treasury is wholly unable to meet the requisitions of this Department. The arrears are enormous, and I am not stating the case too strongly when I say that the War Department in all its branches is almost wholly paralyzed for want of means. A full and plain statement has been submitted to the President, and by him to the Congress. This is written for your own information only, and to show that nothing remains for the present, except to make the best of the circumstances in which we are placed. You may rely on my cordial co-operation in providing everything possible for your army. I will try to secure from the Secretary of the Navy the coffee mentioned in your dispatch of this date.*

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

CHARLOTTE, *March 1, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

Your letter of 23d February received. Lieutenant-General Hardee's infantry, but not his artillery and wagons, has reached Cheraw. The enemy has been stationary for a few days. Our cavalry on their right think them moving toward Florence or Cheraw; that on their left think they will come this way or go to Cheraw. I have no information of the progress of Stewart and Cheatham.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, *March 1, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,

General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: I had the honor to receive your letter of the 23d ultimo last night, and to acknowledge it by telegraph this morning. The general views you express strengthen my hopes greatly. Lieutenant-General Hampton reported the enemy's cavalry about Lancaster yesterday, and the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps six miles south of that point. He thinks their course probably toward Charlotte, possibly Cheraw. Major-General Butler, writing on the previous day, reports the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps on the south side of Little Lynch's Creek, and the Fourteenth and Twentieth close in their rear. He thinks the U. S. army moving on Florence, or perhaps Cheraw. The route by Charlotte, Greensborough, and Danville is very difficult now, as you remark. It would also leave your army exactly between those of General Grant and General Sherman. It seems to me, therefore, that he, General Sherman, ought not to take it. His junction with General Schofield is also an object important enough, I should think, to induce him to keep more to the east. Such a course would also render his junction with General Grant easier. I don't know how we can "remove or destroy all kinds of supplies on the enemy's route." We are compelled to leave in the houses of the inhabitants the food necessary for their subsistence, but the U. S. officers feel no such obligation. The route by which Stewart's and Cheatham's corps are expected lies west of the railroad through Chester. I am anxious to unite them with Hardee's troops, if possible, before any movement by the latter. These forces

* See February 28, p. 1290.

united may impede the march of the Federal army, and even find opportunities to strike heavy blows, or at least prevent it from gathering food. Would it be possible to hold Richmond itself with half your army, while the other half joined us near Roanoke to crush Sherman? We might then turn upon Grant. Would it not be well to instruct General Bragg to keep me advised of his movements? I shall inform him of mine and those of the enemy near me.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., March 1, 1865.

Sketch of Plan of Operations for the Spring Campaign of 1865.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,

Commanding Department, &c., Charlotte, N. C.:

Sherman's ultimate objective point is doubtless Richmond, before which he expects to form a junction with Grant, forcing General Lee either to evacuate Virginia or to accept battle at great disadvantage, and with certain defeat by superior numbers. His intermediate objective points are possibly Fayetteville, and certainly Raleigh and Petersburg. His present position (at or near Camden, S. C.) and movements indicate a purpose to avoid Charlotte and to move on Fayetteville, either directly, or through Wilmington by way of Cheraw or Florence, effecting a junction with Schofield from Wilmington, whose force is about 15,000 men. I estimate Sherman's force at not exceeding 35,000 men, exclusive of 4,000 cavalry. This plan of campaign may be signally foiled.

First. The troops now concentrating under Hardee at Cheraw, some 10,000 infantry and light artillery, in conjunction with the cavalry under Hampton, should oppose Sherman's advance, and do all possible to delay his march, making an obstinate defense of the line of the Pedee, for a time at least.

Second. The forces at Charlotte, about 6,000 infantry and light artillery, should be sent by rail via Raleigh to Smithfield, N. C., as soon as Sherman's movements are uncovered so clearly as to indicate his line of march to be the one anticipated.

Third. From Smithfield this force should march at the proper moment and form a junction at or in advance of Fayetteville with Hardee, who would fall back gradually before Sherman.

Fourth. Bragg should retire from his present position—about Fish [Rockfish] Creek, near Wilmington—by railroad to Warsaw, and march thence to Fayetteville (forty-seven miles), so as to reach that place at the same time with the troops from Charlotte. He should cover or conceal his movement from Schofield by his cavalry and a strong line of skirmishers, and some light artillery, which may be sacrificed, if necessary. By these means there would be assembled at Fayetteville—

Hardee's corps (infantry and artillery).....	10, 000
Army of Tennessee.....	6, 000
Bragg's forces	10, 000
Infantry and artillery	26, 000

But Sherman will have a well disciplined and organized army of 35,000 men, flushed with a series of successes, to cope with which, especially in the present condition of our forces, we should have at

least an equal number of men. The deficiency of some 9,000 men can only be drawn in season for the emergency from General Lee's army, and I would urge that that number of men be held ready to be detached for the service, in time to effect a junction with the other troops to be concentrated at Fayetteville. We could then confidently attack Sherman, expect to destroy his army, and be left free at once to effect a junction with General Lee with all our forces, except perhaps Bragg's corps, which might be required to watch Schofield. We could then attack Grant with superior numbers, and defeat him signally. Should Sherman, however, be able to effect a junction with Schofield, he will then have about 50,000 men, a force which would be too large to contend with, as arranged in the foregoing sketch. In such a contingency I can see no other means of preventing the complete attainment of the main objects of Sherman's campaign than by the prompt evacuation of our lines at Petersburg, and the occupation of those, prepared for such an emergency, around Richmond, and by detaching 25,000 men to unite with the force already in North Carolina, and give immediate battle to Sherman, which could be done with almost certain decisive success. After which the whole army should be hastened back to Virginia to raise the siege of Richmond. Present events tending to force the evacuation of Richmond, it would seem a necessary part of the strategy of the campaign that the Confederate States Government should be previously removed to some point that would free the army from the necessity of protecting it, and thus at the same time diminish the importance which the enemy attaches to Richmond as the capital of the Confederate States.

Respectfully submitted.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 1, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. G. J. RAINS,
Chief Torpedo Bureau:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that as per your order I reported at the headquarters of General Beauregard on the 12th ultimo, for duty with subterra shells. General Hampton, with whom I was assigned for service, desired me to embed a causeway, eleven miles below Columbia, which he said was the only passage for the enemy there, as an impenetrable morass lay on either side. With all possible dispatch I made ready for the work, and had all things in readiness by 7 a. m. on the day following, at which time Major Rhett, the quartermaster of the post, had promised transportation should be furnished. The hour came, and three successive hours, but no transportation, Major R. stating that all his wagons were employed in sending stores beyond the enemy's reach. By 12 o'clock I received the loan of a lady's ambulance and hurried to the front, but the causeway by that time had fallen into the hands of the enemy, and Columbia soon followed. General Hampton furnished me with two excellent horses, but had no wagon. This, however, was after the city was abandoned. He is now wanting me with him, but nothing can be done without means. From Columbia to Camden has been such a field for the work that I return heart-sick at nothing being done. Much may yet be done between Camden and Raleigh, Wilmington, or what point soever the enemy may be destined for. Give me the following and I ask for no more: A light, strong spring-wagon, with water-proof cover; two good horses and a driver: a good horse, bridle, and saddle for sentinel; a pick or grub-

bing-hoe. With these very much may be done. I repeat, General Hampton is desirous that I be with him to operate, appreciating as he does, and particularly at this time, the value of our means of defense. If possible, let me be furnished to-day with what I need, that I may go at once to the front.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,
GARNETT McMILLAN,
Captain, in Charge Subterra Defenses.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
April 1, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded.

Captain McMillan reported to me for duty on the 15th February and I directed him to place his shells on a causeway five miles below Columbia. Before he could reach this point the enemy had possession of it. The shells there would have impeded their march on that road, but would not have seriously delayed them. They did not reach Columbia until the 17th and I do not think any serious damage could have been inflicted on them by these subterra shells. I gave an ambulance to Captain McMillan and directed him to remain near my headquarters. On the 18th my wagons were sent to the rear by General Beauregard and I have never seen ambulance or shells since, and Captain McMillan but once, in Chesterville, from which place he telegraphed to Richmond for a supply of dart torpedoes (I think he called them). He was to get these and to rejoin me, but I have not seen or heard of him since. I do not think the quartermaster at Columbia was to blame for not furnishing transportation, as I know that everything was engaged in moving public stores. Nor do I think the result at Columbia would have been different had all of Captain McMillan's shells been placed in position.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., March 1, 1865—7.30 a. m

Lient. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Near Lancaster, S. C.:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 28th ultimo was received last night. I approve of your order to that vandal Sherman. The system of retaliation must be carried out at any cost. I have ordered you a section of two howitzers or Napoleons with eight horses to the pieces, which is the best we can do. Captain Hart's artillery is at Salisbury, but cannot get here owing to obstructions on railroad; it has no horses with it. The railroad bridge across the Catawba is guarded by infantry and artillery; it must be saved if possible, for our communications with Columbia must be re-established as soon as practicable. General Young's division has been ordered to join you as soon as possible via the crossings of the Santee. No exchange of prisoners can take place. General Wheeler's arrangements cannot now be approved; the enemy has allowed too much time to elapse for an answer. Everything possible will be done to procure arms, saddles, and bridles for Butler's command, but I fear not much success can be hoped for. It is important that your cavalry should be in front of the enemy to delay his advance eastwardly. Brigadier-General Robertson's command has been ordered (through General Hardee) to report to Butler. General Hardee's forces are concentrating at Cheraw with orders to defend the crossings of the

Great Pedee on the way to Fayetteville and Wilmington, if the latter can be done without endangering his command, which is required for future operations. If Sherman has only five days' rations he should be delayed by all practicable means, to prevent him from reaching a point where he can supply himself from the sea; hence the roads to Georgetown should be blockaded and defended to the last extremity. Brigadier-General Robertson is now operating in that direction to prevent any advance from the sea coast and guard the Northeastern Railroad.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

P. S.—Five hundred saddles with 1,000 sabers are on the way to you from Richmond.

G. T. B.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
March 1, 1865.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your communication in reference to the movement of the enemy's cavalry. He desires to know if you cannot ascertain what is in your front on this road; whether there has been any change in the pickets, &c. He would desire to obtain this information before morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 1, 1865—7.35 a. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: Your dispatch of March 1 this moment received. I have taken measures to ascertain what there is in our front. You desired the information before morning and fear your dispatch has been delayed.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

[MARCH 1, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (three dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, pp. 1122, 1123.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ALABAMA CAVALRY,
March 1, 1865.

Lieut. A. H. SMITH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have sent two scouts to-night in the direction of the Rocky River road, and they report the enemy in force this side of the road above mentioned, also the Tenth Confederate has just come in and reports the same. It is impossible for a scout to get to the road to-night.

Respectfully,

JO. ROBINS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, near Wilson's Store, March 2, 1865—7.30 a. m.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding corps.

W. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
 No. 17. } *Goldsborough, March 1, 1865.*

In publishing General Orders, Nos. 2 and 3, from the headquarters C. S. Armies, the commanding general desires to explain that the time allowed absentees in this department to return or report themselves as therein directed, begins to run from the date of this order (March 1), and that the pardon embraces offenses committed prior to this date. All men of the classes pardoned under sentence, or awaiting trial, will be immediately released.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 1, 1865.

The pardon offered in General Orders, Nos. 2 and 3, from the general-in-chief, extends to all men now in confinement under charges or sentence for desertion or absence without leave, with the exceptions therein indicated.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

General HOKE,
Rockfish Creek:

To delay Sherman, should he move toward Wilmington, it will be well for you to have both Manchester and Charlotte roads cut, and bridges and trestles destroyed at every point. All enemy's prisoners will probably have passed here by to-morrow. You must then be prepared for Schofield's movements. Have roads reconnoitered and repaired from your present position and from Warsaw to Fayetteville.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE,
Rockfish:

Lieutenant Fairly reports a bluff, called Black Rock, twenty-eight miles above Wilmington, which General Whiting considered it practicable to blow into the river, thus obstructing the channel. General Bragg desires you will look to this and have it done if practicable.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

Colonel FREMONT, *Magnolia:*

Captain Darden, quartermaster, Weldon, telegraphs great need of trains to haul forage to Stony Creek. Please do what is proper.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES, *Raleigh:*

Please send some officer to examine and have repaired road from Raleigh to Fayetteville. Country people should be invoked to make necessary repairs.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS, *Fayetteville:*

General Hoke's scouts report enemy moving up west bank of Cape Fear. Communicate to General Hardee.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS, *Fayetteville:*

All cotton or naval stores and other stores serviceable to enemy must be destroyed when danger is imminent of their falling into enemy's hands. Proper preparations should be made now for such an emergency.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RICHMOND, VA., *March 1, 1865.*

Col. JAMES PHELAN, *Meridian, Miss.:*

I received your friendly letter of the 17th of January only about a week ago, and do not see that I can answer it more appropriately than by sending you the annexed copy of a paper which I had prepared for transmission to Congress. As it would, however, have been necessary to accompany it, if sent, with a protest against any Congressional interference with the function, exclusively executive, of assigning officers to command, I determined to withhold it rather than, under existing circumstances, to send it to Congress with such a protest as I should have felt bound to make. The paper will fully explain my views and position in the matter. I may add that since the accompanying paper was written General Lee has asked that General Johnston should be ordered to report to him for duty, and that I have complied with his wish in the hope that General Johnston's soldierly qualities may be made serviceable to his country when acting under General Lee's orders, and that in his new position those defects which I found manifested by him when serving as an independent commander will be remedied by the control of the general-in-chief.

Very truly and respectfully, yours, &c.,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[Inclosure.]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., February 18, 1865.

The joint resolution of Congress and other manifestations of a desire that General Joseph E. Johnston should be restored to the command of the Army of Tennessee have been anxiously considered by me, and it is with sincere regret that I find myself unable to gratify what I must believe to have become quite a general desire of my countrymen. The expression of this desire has come to me in forms so imposing and from sources so fully entitled to my respect and confidence that I feel it to be due to the people, to justice, and to myself to take the unusual step of discussing matters which would otherwise for public consideration have been passed over in silence, and of presenting the reasons which make it impossible for me to assign him again to an important and independent command.

At the commencement of the present war there were few persons in the Confederacy who entertained a more favorable opinion of General Johnston as a soldier than I did. I knew him to be brave and well informed in his profession. I believed that he possessed high capacity for becoming a successful commander in the field. Our relations under the former Government were of a friendly nature and so continued in the new sphere of duty opened to both by the change in the political condition of the country. At different times during the war I have given to General Johnston three very important commands, and in each case experience has revealed the fact that with the high qualities above referred to as possessed by him are united defects which unfit him for the conduct of a campaign. When he was relieved from command in July last it was believed that this action on my part would be accepted in its plain and only real significance, as an indication that his conduct of the campaign was disapproved, and that apprehension was entertained that the grave losses already sustained would be followed by still further disasters if he continued in command. Any criticism on this action, however harsh and unjust to me personally, I was prepared to bear in the same silence which the interest of my country has imposed on me, as a duty, in many other instances during the war. The disclosure of the ground of my conduct it would have been preferable to postpone to a future and more fitting occasion. But it has recently been apparent that there exists in some quarters a purpose, not simply to criticise the past, but to arraign me before the bar of public opinion, and to compel me to do what my judgment and conscience disapproved, or to destroy my power of usefulness by undermining the confidence of my fellow-citizens. It is better to lose that confidence than to retain it at the expense of truth and duty. Yet no man can conduct public affairs with success in a Government like ours unless upheld by the trust and willing aid of the people. I have determined, therefore, now to make the disclosure of the causes which have forced on me the unpleasant duty of declining to gratify the desire of a large portion of the people, as well as the expressed wish of Congress.

General Johnston, on his entering into the Confederate service, was assigned to the command of the Army of the Valley of Virginia, which was then confronted by the enemy in position on the north side of the Potomac. At Harper's Ferry there was a large quantity of materials and machinery for the manufacture of small-arms of the greatest value to the Confederacy. Their removal to places of greater safety was commenced as soon as the necessary arrangements could be made. During the progress of the work General Johnston insisted upon the evacuation

of the place, and finally retired from it, as I then thought, and still think, prematurely. The correctness of this opinion is sufficiently shown by the fact that after his withdrawal the working party remained without interruption by the enemy, and removed much valuable property, including the heaviest part of the machinery. When General Beauregard was threatened at Manassas by a large column of the enemy, his numerical inferiority and the inactivity of the enemy in the Valley, under General Patterson, evinced the necessity, propriety, and practicability of a prompt march of our Valley army to his aid. General Johnston made serious objections to and expressed doubts as to the practicability of such a movement; and only after repeated and urgent instructions did he move to make the junction proposed. The delay thus occasioned retarded the arrival of the head of his column until after the first conflict had occurred, and prevented a part of his troops from getting into position until the victory had been won. Indeed, we were only saved from a fatal defeat at the battle of Manassas by the promptness of General E. Kirby Smith, who, acting without orders, and moving by a change of direction, succeeded in reaching the battle-field in time to avert disaster. After the battle the forces of General Johnston and General Beauregard remained united. General Johnston, who was in command of the combined forces, constantly declared his inability to assume offensive operations unless furnished with re-enforcements, which, as he was several times informed, the Government was unable to supply, and in the fall of 1861 put his troops in intrenched lines covering Centerville.

During the winter he declared that his position was so insecure that it must be abandoned before the enemy could advance, but indicated no other line of defense as the proper one. He was therefore summoned to Richmond in February, 1862, for conference. On inquiry into the character of his position at Centerville he stated that his lines there were untenable, but when asked what new position he proposed to occupy, declared himself ignorant of the topography of the country in his rear. This confession was a great shock to my confidence in him. That a general should have been for many months in command of an army, should have selected a line which he himself considered untenable, and should not have ascertained the topography of the country in his rear, was inexplicable on any other theory than that he had neglected the primary duty of a commander. Engineers were sent by me from Richmond to examine the country and to supply him with the requisite information. General Johnston had announced, however, that his position was favorable as a point from which to advance, if he could be re-enforced. It was, therefore, agreed that he should mobilize his army by sending to the rear all heavy guns and all supplies and luggage, so as to be able to advance or retreat, as occasion might require. The Government was soon afterward surprised by learning that General Johnston had commenced a hasty retreat without giving notice of an intention to do so, though he had just been apprised of the improved prospect of re-enforcing him, and of the hope entertained by me that he would thus be enabled to assume the offensive. The retreat was without molestation or even demonstration from the enemy, but was conducted with such precipitation as to involve a heavy loss of supplies. Some valuable artillery was abandoned, a large depot of provisions was burned, blankets, shoes, and saddles were committed to the flames, and this great sacrifice of property was so wanting in apparent justification as to produce a painful impression on the public mind, and to lead to an inquiry by a committee from Congress, which began an investigation into the subject. but did not report before Congress adjourned.

During his retreat General Johnston telegraphed to Richmond to ask at what point he should stop, and afterward admitted on conference the same want of topographical information previously confessed. When the enemy, instead of pursuing General Johnston in his rapid retreat, changed their base to Fortress Monroe, and made the York River and the Peninsula their line of approach, he was ordered to Yorktown with his army, where General Magruder had for many months been actively constructing defensive works to resist an advance up the Peninsula. General Johnston soon pronounced the position untenable, and made another hasty retreat, and with another heavy loss of munitions and armament. He gave notice of his movement, and of the necessity of evacuating Norfolk to the general in command there only after his own retreat had actually commenced. The Secretaries of War and of the Navy had started (the former to Yorktown, the latter to Norfolk) to prevent a hurried evacuation and the consequent loss of the material of war. Too late to restrain General Johnston, they arrived in Norfolk in time to delay General Huger's compliance with his notice until much valuable property was saved. But Norfolk could not long be held after the Peninsula was in the hands of the enemy, and with it were lost large supplies of all kinds, including machinery which could not be replaced in the Confederacy.

General Johnston halted in his retreat near the Chickahominy, but after spending some days in selecting a position for defense against the advancing enemy, suddenly crossed that stream without notice to the Government and retreated upon Richmond. He remained inactive in front of Richmond, making no intrenchments to cover his position, which might enable him to assume the offensive with the greater part of the army. He again neglected the proper reconnaissances, and failed to have the roads laid down on topographical maps—a want of foresight sorely felt by our army, when afterward, under General Lee, endeavoring to cut off McClellan's retreat. He suffered the enemy to bring up their heavy guns, supplies, and troops, without molestation; to build bridges across the Chickahominy, and to cross a portion of their army and make intrenchments, not only without resistance, but without his knowledge of these important military operations. When, on a sudden freshet in the Chickahominy, a body of the enemy's troops was found to be on this side of the stream, an attack was made under the impression that they were cut off by the flood from re-enforcements and entirely at our mercy. The battle was disastrous, because the enemy was rapidly re-enforced across bridges the existence of which had not been ascertained by our commander, and because our troops attacked an enemy whom they did not know to be intrenched, and assailed the front of a position which might have been easily turned by cross-roads which were in constant use by the people of the neighborhood, but which were unknown to our officers. The general fell severely wounded in this engagement, in which he was conspicuous for personal daring. But this gallantry could not redeem the want of that foresight which is requisite for a commander, and the battle was, as I have said, a failure. His wound rendered him unfit for further service in the field for some months, and terminated his first important command, which he had administered in a manner to impair my confidence in his fitness to conduct a campaign for a Government possessed of only very limited material resources, and whose armies are numerically so inferior to those of the enemy as to demand from its generals the greatest vigilance and activity, the best discipline and organization, with careful provision and rigid economy. The loss of supplies

during the time he was in command had been great, and our difficulties for the want of them so distressing as to cripple our military operations to a far greater extent than can be appreciated.

On General Johnston's fall General Lee assumed the command of the army. He at once made an intrenched line by which the city could be covered with part of his forces, and was thus enabled to cross the Chickahominy with the main body, and, with the aid of the troops from the Valley, under General Jackson, to attack the enemy in flank and rear, achieving the series of glorious victories in the summer of 1862, which made our history illustrious. As soon as General Johnston reported himself fit for duty he was again intrusted by me with an important command, for, though my confidence in him had been much shaken, it had not yet been destroyed. He had been tested in the immediate command of an army, and in that position had not justified the high opinion I had previously entertained of him. He was now assigned to a different class of duties—to the general supervision and control of several armies, each under an immediate commander, to whom was intrusted the direct duty of organizing, disciplining, and supplying his own troops. His department included the Districts of Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi, with power to command in person wherever he should consider his services most needed, and to transfer troops at discretion. He thus controlled the army under General Bragg in Tennessee, those of Generals Pemberton and Gardner at Vicksburg and Port Hudson, and that of General Forney at Mobile and other points in Alabama. The new assignment was of higher grade, and to a more enlarged sphere than the former, embracing within its limits my own home and those of my nearest relatives and friends. It is, therefore, apparent that I felt no disposition to depreciate the merits of General Johnston, or to deprive him of an opportunity of rendering such conspicuous service as would secure military fame for himself. If private considerations were needed, in addition to a sense of public duty, in order to insure my earnest support of all his efforts for the good of the country, the motive of personal interest was not absent. Few were exposed to a more total loss of property than myself, in the event of his disastrous failure in this new command.

When General Grant made his demonstration on Vicksburg General Johnston failed to perceive its significance, and did not repair to that vital point in his department until ordered from Richmond to do so. He arrived, as he reported, too late. He did not proceed to the headquarters of the forces in the field, but stopped at Jackson and undertook from there to direct the operations of the army, though, as was shown by subsequent events, he was not well informed of the situation. After the investment of Vicksburg General Johnston remained inactive near Canton and Jackson, stating his inability to attack Grant, notwithstanding very urgent requests to do so. He was thereupon pressed to attack the forces of Banks at Port Hudson and rescue the army of General Gardner, but declined on the ground that he feared Grant would seize the occasion to advance upon Jackson, which place he considered too important to be exposed. Grant was then investing Vicksburg. After both Vicksburg and Port Hudson had been captured without one blow on his part to relieve either, a detachment was sent by General Grant from Vicksburg to capture Jackson. The enemy, it appears, was surprised to find the place held in force, and sent back to Vicksburg for re-enforcements. No attempt was made by General Johnston to improve the opportunity thus presented by attacking the isolated detachment of the enemy in his front. He remained within

his lines and permitted Grant again to concentrate a large force against the third and last section of that army. Not once during the entire campaign did he act on the maxim of attacking the foe in detail, a rule peculiarly applicable when an army is contending against an enemy superior in numbers. The familiar historical example of the war conducted by Frederick the Great against three armies, the junction of any two of which would have caused the downfall of his State, illustrates the value of this maxim, and serves to show how much, under the most adverse conditions, may be achieved by a general who, to professional skill, unites genius and energy.

No sooner had the enemy commenced investing Jackson than General Johnston pronounced it untenable. He had been there for many weeks, and to insure the successful defense of the place left Gardner's army at Port Hudson to its fate. Yet when the moment of trial came he decided that the lines of defense had been badly located, and that the works were so imperfect and insufficient as to render the position untenable. Weeks had been passed by the general commanding in the town with an army of between 20,000 and 30,000 men under his orders, and he had neither remedied defective location of lines nor given the works the requisite strength. Jackson was evacuated, and General Johnston withdrew his army to Eastern Mississippi. The evacuation of Jackson, as of Centerville, was marked by one of the most serious and irreparable sacrifices of property that has occurred during the war—a loss for which, in my judgment, no sufficient explanation has been given. The railroad bridge across the Pearl River at Jackson had been broken. It was necessary to rebuild it sufficiently to remove cars across, and there was a very large accumulation of rolling-stock on the western side of the stream which, without the bridge, could not be saved if Jackson were evacuated. Under these circumstances General Johnston, with over 20,000 men, suffered this gap to remain without an effort to fill it, although the work could with little difficulty have been completed in a manner to answer the requirements of the occasion. In consequence of this neglect a very large number of locomotives, said to be about ninety, and several hundred cars, were lost. We have never recovered from the injury to the transportation service occasioned by this failure on his part.

General Johnston's second campaign thus closed with the loss of every important position which the enemy had attacked. Not only was Vicksburg forced to surrender, with its garrison, but Port Hudson, with its garrison had been captured when he was able to relieve it, but abstained from making the movement lest he should thereby hazard the safety of Jackson, which, in its turn, was lost with the sacrifice of most valuable property. My confidence in General Johnston's fitness for separate command was now destroyed. The proof was too complete to admit of longer doubt that he was deficient in enterprise, tardy in movement, defective in preparation, and singularly neglectful of the duty of preserving our means of supply and transportation, although experience should have taught him their value and the difficulty of procuring them. It should be added, that neither in this nor in his previous command had it been possible for me to obtain from General Johnston any communications of his plans or purposes beyond vague statements of an intention to counteract the enemy as their plans might be developed. No indication was ever presented to induce the belief that he considered it proper to form combinations for attack as well as defense, and nothing is more certain than the final success of an enemy who with superior forces can continue his operations with-

out fear of being assailed, even when exposing weakness and affording opportunities of which a vigilant adversary would avail himself for attack. I came to the conclusion, therefore, that it would be imprudent to intrust General Johnston with another independent command for active operations in the field. Yet I yielded my convictions, and gave him a third trial, under the following circumstances:

General Bragg, at his own request, was relieved from the command of the Army of Tennessee after the battle of Missionary Ridge, and was succeeded by Hardee, his senior lieutenant-general. This officer, distrusting his own ability, earnestly requested the selection of another commander for the army, and a most urgent and general solicitation was made that General Johnston should be assigned to that duty. After relieving General Bragg, of our five generals Lee and Beauregard were the only officers of that grade in the field except General Johnston. Neither of the first two could properly be withdrawn from the position occupied by them, and General Johnston thus remained the only officer of rank superior to that of lieutenant-general who was available. The [act of Congress] authorizing the appointment of general officers with temporary rank had not then been passed. There seemed to be scarcely a choice left, but my reluctance to risk the disasters which I feared would result from General Johnston's assignment to this command could with difficulty be surmounted. Very pressing requests were made to me by members of Congress. The assignment of this commander was said to be demanded by the common voice of the army, the press, and the people; and, finally, some of my advisers in the Cabinet represented that it might well be the case that his assignment with the disasters apprehended from it would be less calamitous than the injury arising from an apparent indifference to the wishes and opinions of the officers of the State governments, of many members of Congress, and of other prominent citizens. I committed the error of yielding to these suggestions against my own deliberate convictions, and General Johnston entered upon his third important command—that of the army designed to recover the State of Tennessee from the enemy. In February, 1864, he was informed of the policy of the Government for his army. It was proposed to re-enforce him largely, and that he should at once advance and assume the offensive for the recovery of at least a part of the State of Tennessee. For this purpose he was advised to accumulate as rapidly as possible sufficient supplies for an advance, and assured that the re-enforcing troops should be sent to him as soon as he was prepared for the movement. Until such time it was deemed imprudent to open the country to incursions of the enemy by withdrawing from other positions, or to delay accumulation of supplies by increasing the number of consumers at the front. The winter was dry and mild. The enemy, as it was reported, not expecting any active movement on our part, had sent most of his horses back to Kentucky to be recruited for the spring campaign.

General Hardee had, just before relinquishing the command, reported our army as fully rested and recovered from the effect of its retreat from Missionary Ridge. He represented that there was effectiveness and sufficient supply in the ordnance, quartermaster's, and commissary departments; that the artillery was in good condition, the spirits of the troops excellent, and the army ready to fight. General Bragg sent to General Johnston all the information deemed valuable which had been acquired during his continuance in command. The Government spared nothing of men and materials at its disposal. Batteries made for General Lee's army were diverted and sent to General Johnston, and he was informed that troops would be sent to re-enforce him as

soon as he had collected supplies in depot for a forward movement. Absentees were rapidly returning to the army when he assumed command. Several thousand men had joined their regiments within the twenty days immediately preceding his arrival at Dalton. Troops were withdrawn from Charleston, Savannah, and Mobile to aid him. The main army of Alabama and Mississippi, under General Polk, was placed at his disposal. Cavalry was returned from East Tennessee to assist him.

General Johnston made no attempt to advance. As soon as he assumed command he suggested deficiencies and difficulties to be encountered in an offensive movement, which he declared himself unable to overcome. The enemy commenced advancing in May, and General Johnston began retreating. His retreat was not marked by any general engagement, nor does he appear to have attempted to cut off any portion or detachment of the enemy while they were marching around his flanks. Little fighting was done by his army, except when attacked in intrenchments. His course in abandoning a large extent of country abounding in supplies, and offering from its mountainous character admirable facilities for defense, so disheartened and demoralized the army that he himself announced by telegram large losses from straggling and desertion. At Allatoona, his position being almost impregnable, the enemy were compelled to make extensive flank movements which exposed them to attack; but they were allowed by General Johnston, who had marched out of his intrenchments, to interpose themselves between him and the ridge without receiving any assault upon their lengthened and exposed flank. He was thus maneuvered out of a most formidable position with slight loss to the enemy. By a repetition of a similar course he was driven, without any apparent capacity to help himself, through an entire district of mountain passes and defiles, and across rivers until he was finally brought to the suburbs of Atlanta.

No information was sent to me which tended to dispel the apprehension then generally expressed that Atlanta also was to be abandoned when seriously threatened. Some of those who had most earnestly urged General Johnston's assignment to the command of the army when it was at Dalton now with equal earnestness pressed his prompt removal. The consequences of changing a commander in the midst of a campaign were regarded to be so embarrassing that, even when it was considered by others too plainly necessary for doubt or delay, I preferred, by direct inquiry of General Johnston, to obtain that which had been too long withheld—his plan for future operations. A telegram was sent to him insisting on a statement of his purpose, so as to enable me to anticipate events. His reply showed that he intended leaving the intrenchments of Atlanta under the guard of the Georgia militia, and moving out with his army into the field. This was regarded as conclusive that Atlanta was also to be given up without a battle, and I could perceive no ground for hoping that General Johnston, who had failed to check the enemy's march from Dalton to Atlanta, through a country abounding in strong positions for defense, would be able to prevent the further advance through a level country to Macon, and the consequent severance of the Confederacy by a line passing through the middle of Georgia. He was therefore relieved. If I had been slow to consent to his assignment to that command, I was at least equally slow to agree to his removal.

I could not discover between the forces of General Johnston and General Sherman any such disparity as was alleged, nor do I believe that our army in any military department since the beginning of the war has been so nearly equal in numbers with the enemy as in this last

campaign of General Johnston. His report, dated October 20, 1864,* states that he had lost in killed and wounded in infantry and artillery during this campaign, 10,000 men, and from all other causes, principally slight sickness, 4,700. Of his cavalry the losses are not stated. His report, however, omits to state what his returns to the Adjutant-General's Office exhibit—a loss of over 7,000 captured by the enemy. His losses, therefore, in infantry and artillery were about 22,000, without including cavalry. Yet, notwithstanding these heavy losses, General Johnston's returns of July 10, a few days before his removal from command, show an aggregate present of 73,849 men, of whom 50,932 are reported to be effective. But his return of the previous month shows that among those not reported as effective were quite 11,000 men performing active service on extra duty, and as non-commissioned staff officers and musicians. The available force present must therefore have been about 62,000 men. The aggregate present of the 10th of March previous (after the arrival of the part of Hardee's corps that had been detached, although too late to aid General Polk in opposing Sherman's raid through Mississippi) was 54,806, and the effective present 42,408. It thus appears that so largely was General Johnston re-enforced that after all the losses of his campaign his army had increased about 19,000 men present, and about the same number of men available for active duty.

As the loss in killed and wounded, sick and prisoners, in infantry and artillery alone was 22,000 men, and would probably be swollen to 25,000 by adding the loss in cavalry, and as the force available on the 10th of July was about 62,000, it is deduced that General Johnston had been in command of an army of about 85,000 men fit for active duty to oppose Sherman, whose effective force was not believed to have been much in excess of that number. The entire force of the enemy was considerably greater than the numbers I have mentioned, and so was General Johnston's; but in considering the merits of the campaign it is not necessary to do more than compare the actual strength of the armies which might have joined the issue of battle. When it is considered that with forces thus matched General Johnston was endeavoring to hold a mountainous district of our own country with numerous fortified positions, while the enemy was in the midst of a hostile population and with a long line of communications to guard, it is evident that it was not the want of men or means which caused the disastrous failure of his campaign. My opinion of General Johnston's unfitness for command has ripened slowly and against my inclinations into a conviction so settled that it would be impossible for me again to feel confidence in him as the commander of an army in the field. The power to assign generals to appropriate duties is a function of trust confided to me by my countrymen. That trust I have ever been ready to resign at my country's call, but while I hold it, nothing shall induce me to shrink from its responsibilities or to violate the obligations it imposes.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

CHARLOTTE, *March 2, 1865.*

(Received 12.45.)

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

Governor Vance objects to alteration of gauge of North Carolina road northeast of Salisbury. He does not wish connection broken with the road west of that place. What are your wishes?

J. E. JOHNSTON.

* See Vol. XXXVIII, Part III, p. 612.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, March 2, 1865.

General R. E. LEE:

DEAR SIR: Yours has been received, giving me the distressing intelligence of the increase of desertion from our armies. I had heard from other sources of this defection of our troops and was already too well aware that the cause of it was to be found in the general public despondency. I inaugurated a series of public meetings in this State, by my recent proclamation, for the purpose of reviving public sentiment, and though many have been held and many more will be held, yet the near and triumphant approach of the enemy has so alarmed the timid and so engrossed the loyal in preparation for his coming, that I fear they will hardly have their proper effect. I have myself been so busy in trying to organize my militia and secure my vast public stores that I have only been able to address the people at two or three points. Rest assured, however, general, that I am fully alive to the importance of the crisis, and whatever man can do in my situation shall be done. I shall now order out in every county that class of the home guard not subject to duty in the field, and put them to work arresting deserters. In many counties, however, they are necessarily inefficient from the great number of the deserters and the natural fear of the destruction of their property, &c. If you could send me as many as two regiments of cavalry, by quartering them in the midst of these disaffected districts and foraging upon the friends of the deserters, they could not only arrest many, but could recruit themselves and horses, restore confidence, and inspire with courage the local forces. I earnestly recommend this action, general, and think in the long run it would not weaken your army. I think our people will respond liberally to the appeal for supplies, which I have just published this morning at the instance of the Secretary of War. The first answer made to it, two hours after its appearance in the morning papers, was from a poor widow of this city, who, hard pressed to live in these distressing times, as I know she is, came yet to offer me two pieces of bacon and a barrel of meal. Such offerings, on the sacred altar of country, hallow our cause, and I hope will secure God's blessing upon it.

Very truly, yours,

Z. B. VANCE.

P. S.—I send you a copy of my appeal to the people of my State.

Z. B. V.

—
CHARLOTTE, *March 2, 1865.*

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE, *Raleigh, N. C. :*

I find that not the War Department but General Beauregard ordered the widening of the railroad. I consider the extension of the work to Danville a military necessity.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

—
HEADQUARTERS,
March 2, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

I have notified Governor Vance that the Quartermaster-General and I both deem very important that the widening of the gauge should continue to Danville if possible.

R. E. LEE.

[MARCH 2, 1865.—For Johnston to Lee, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1052.]

RICHMOND, *March 2, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding :

Major Johnston of my department reported three days ago from Salisbury that he was waiting first train for Charlotte to report to you. I beg you to take all transportation in the country under military necessity.

A. H. COLE,
Major, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, { ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 51. } *Richmond, March 2, 1865.*

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XXI. Paragraph XL, Special Orders, No. 48, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, is so amended as to read: Paragraph II, General Orders, No. 6, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, February 14, 1865, is hereby revoked, and Brig. Gen. G. J. Pillow, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding, &c., for assignment to the duty of collecting and forwarding to their proper commands all absentees from the armies of the Confederate States who may be found west of the Savannah River.

* * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Unionville, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Major-General LORING:

The lieutenant-general commanding directs that you move your command at sunrise to-morrow to Scaife's Ferry, on Broad River. Should you find everything there in readiness, you will cross your command at once. Lieutenant-Colonel Sevier will either direct the route or send you a guide.

Respectfully,

W. D. GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Unionville, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Major-General CHEATHAM:

Lieutenant-General Stewart directs that you move your command in the morning, as soon as you will have three days' cooked rations ready, to Scaife's Ferry, on Broad River.

Respectfully, &c.,

W. D. GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
March 2, 1865—7.40 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches of 4.35 and 8.10 yesterday.* He deems it best that you should move around to the left, to get in the front and on that flank of the enemy. He desires you to move across to the Rocky River road this morning as soon as you can get in motion, and the information you will obtain then will determine the best route to pursue from that point. General Hampton will follow you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

He desires you to leave a party to follow the rear of the enemy on the Wadesborough road to pick up stragglers and worry the enemy. You can recall your pickets from below, as the general deems them now unnecessary.

Respectfully,

H. B. McC.

Have you any report from the Third Alabama, Lieutenant-Colonel Robins, who was sent over to the Rocky River road last evening?

[MARCH 2, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (two dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1123.]

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

I find Colonel Childs has allowed a press dispatch to go from Fayetteville which gives Sherman's position, and will do us injury. I suggest the Richmond and Petersburg papers be not allowed to publish it.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 2, 1865—3 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Near Wilmington, N. C.:*

Enemy is reported moving eastwardly from Lancaster and Camden; destination whether Cheraw or Florence not determined. Hardee will fall back on Fayetteville if hard pressed. Would you be able to form timely junction there with him and other forces to give battle to Sherman and then to Schofield?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Charlotte, N. C.:*

If assured that the junction will be made, and a battle delivered immediately thereafter, I can join at point indicated on three days' notice, with 6,000 men. Any delay would expose this whole region to devastation and the capital to destruction.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 2, 1865—9.40 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Near Wilmington, N. C.:

The movement of Sherman indicates with certainty an advance on Cheraw; thence he will doubtless move forward upon Fayetteville. Hampton and Hardee will oppose him as stoutly and as long as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

Doctor FRETWELL:
(Care of General Rains, Richmond.)

Wanted here immediately with all torpedoes on hand. No boats can be procured here.

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

General HOKE,
Rockfish Creek:

Torpedo man in Richmond has been telegraphed for.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

We have reliable information up to yesterday. Enemy had made no movement up Cape Fear. Communicate to General Hardee.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Telegraphic information as to position and movements of enemy is calculated to do us great injury, and in General Bragg's opinion should not be sent except in official dispatches.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

Telegraph movements of enemy. Send dispatch by courier.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, *March 3, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

Indications are that the enemy will go to Fayetteville, as you surmise. I suggest that all troops within reach should be under the same commander, and, therefore, ordered to obey me.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RICHMOND, *March 3, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Can you not hasten march of Stewart and Cheatham? Do not understand from your dispatch whether enemy is moving upon Cheraw or Florence. If latter, he may return to coast; if former, may go to Fayetteville, when by union with Bragg you might attack to advantage.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, *March 3, 1865.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

To make a prompt movement to meet the enemy threatening your capital, I need fifty additional good wagons and teams to transport supplies. To meet the emergency will you assist me by having them collected from the vicinity of Raleigh and Smithfield at the earliest possible moment.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GREENSBOROUGH, *March 3, 1865.*

Capt. C. C. McPHAIL,
General Johnston's Staff:

Every effort shall be made to have cars at Salisbury in required time. Will telegraph you again to-night.

S. R. CHISMAN,
Major and Quartermaster.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 52. } *Richmond, March 3, 1865.*

* * * * * *

X. Brig. Gen. H. W. Mercer, Provisional Army, U. S., is relieved from present assignment, and will report for duty to Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb, commanding, &c., Reserves of Georgia.

* * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
[*March*] 3, 1865. (Via Fayetteville 4th.)

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: The enemy changed position yesterday. Advanced on Chesterfield Court-House and crossed Thompson's Creek above that

point late in the afternoon. I am evacuating Cheraw and shall move to Rockingham, where I hope to receive your instructions. General Butler thinks army of Sherman is moving on this place or on Rockingham.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHESTERFIELD, S. C., March 3, 1865—3 p. m.

Lient. Gen. ALEX. P. STEWART,

Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: I met my scouts here who have been fifteen or twenty miles forward. Their report concurs with other reports, that the enemy has all crossed the Catawba River, and it is reported that they have halted in the vicinity of Lancaster. I find no troops here; everything has moved to Charlotte. I find no forage or commissary stores here. General, if the emergency for me to move is not too demanding, I would respectfully ask permission to remain at this place to-morrow, the 4th, for the purpose of having some of my horses of my regiment shod, of which I stand greatly in need as the most of my horses are barefoot and very tender. I shall expect orders from you by the bearer.

I am, very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

D. W. BIZZELL,
Captain, Commanding Third Arkansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Charlotte, N. C., March 3, 1865.

In pursuance of Special Field Orders, headquarters Military Division of the West, the undersigned hereby assumes command of Johnson's division, in Lee's corps, and in virtue of his rank as senior major-general also of the corps itself.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
March 3, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your letter was received last evening, and I will inquire into the matters you speak about, letting you know the result of my investigations. The enemy are still moving toward Chesterfield. The Fourteenth Corps is following the three others, whose position was given to you by General Butler in his last dispatch. The cavalry is on the Landsford and Wadesborough road, and I propose to attack them as soon as Wheeler gets up. Can you not get the troops from Charlotte over to join Hardee? They might march rapidly on this road, which will be covered by the cavalry, and then join him. If all the infantry can be put together we can punish Sherman greatly, for his troops are much scattered. You gave me no orders as to reporting, so I have continued to report to General Beauregard.

I am, very truly, yours,

WADE HAMPTON.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
Doctor Lowry's House, March 3, 1865—9.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER :

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to say that he is informed that the wagons are still on the other side of Lane's Creek. He thinks that it will be impossible for the wagons to keep up with us, as we will have to make a rapid march to get in front of the enemy, and he thinks that they had better be left under small guard at some safe point, or sent back to the railroad where they can forage, and join us at some future time. General H. says that if you think you can bring the wagons along you can do so, but he does not think it will be possible to do so. Please give the necessary orders to place them in safety, and inform General Hampton what is your decision. You will need a few ordnance wagons.

Respectfully,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 3, 1865.*

Col. G. G. DIBRELL, *Fort Mills, S. C. :*

General Wheeler is east of Lancaster Court-House. You will, if not otherwise ordered, move to that point and report to General Wheeler without delay. A party of fifty mounted men is reported to be depredating on the country along the line of railroad between this place and Fort Mills. You will have these men arrested, disarmed, and sent here under guard. They are reported to belong to cavalry. See to this and move as ordered.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, *March 3, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Goldsborough :*

Is it not probable that Sherman and Schofield will attempt to unite? Could you not in such event interpose between the latter and Hardee, delaying his march? Please inform me at Raleigh where your troops are.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
 EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, March 3, 1865.

General B. BRAGG, *Goldsborough, N. C. :*

GENERAL: I hope you will induce all slave owners in Duplin, New Hanover, and Onslow to remove immediately all able-bodied slaves in this direction, and will afford them all necessary aid in so doing. If necessary I will sustain you in removing by force all such slaves as will likely afford recruits to the enemy. If the owners cannot support them the Government can usefully employ them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. B. VANCE.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 3, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville, N. C. :

Suspend removal of subsistence and forage and collect all you possibly can at Fayetteville. Did you correct first false report of enemy's advance up west bank to General Hardee?

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 3, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville :

Allow no telegrams conveying military information to be sent except officially.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 3, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville :

In future telegraph all reports from General Hardee direct to General Johnston, as well as here.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 3, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE A. CUNNINGHAM,
Raleigh :

Reconnoiter shortest road from Morrisville to terminus Coal Fields railway, leading from Fayetteville. Report immediately condition and what repairs needed. Rest of party must go to Greensborough.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 3, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. A. R. LAWTON,
Quartermaster-General, Richmond, Va. :

Would it not be advisable to commence widening the gauge of the road between Danville and Greensborough to prevent delay in transportation of troops and supplies? It ought to be done in eight days at farthest.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SALISBURY, *March 4, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

I am on my way to Hardec via Fayetteville. Lee's corps will start to-day by rail by the same route, and Stewart and Cheatham from Chester to-morrow. General Beauregard will bring them on.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RICHMOND, *March 4, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Assume command of all troops in Department of North Carolina, except those from this army arresting deserters. General Bragg informed.

R. E. LEE.

RALEIGH, *March 4, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Charlotte, N. C.:

I can have fifty wagons, mostly two-horse, by this day week, if you will give authority to impress a few country wagons for post duty. State has no authority to impress.

Z. B. VANCE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 53. } *Richmond, March 4, 1865.*

* * * * * *

XX. Paragraph XXXIII, Special Orders, No. 39, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, is hereby revoked, and Brig. Gen. E. M. Law, Provisional Army, U. S., is assigned with the cavalry under General Wade Hampton's command.

* * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War :

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ROCKINGHAM, S. C., *March 4, 1865.*

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: The enemy pressed us closely yesterday morning, on leaving Cheraw, and it was with great difficulty that the bridge over the river was destroyed. It was, however, effectively destroyed, but the enemy succeeded in laying a pontoon, and at last accounts (9.30 this morning) had crossed a brigade. Most of my command will reach this place to-night. I brought off all of the supplies that my transportation, which is in a wretched condition, could admit of. In obedience to General Beauregard's instructions of 24th ultimo, I shall move toward Greensborough to-morrow. I had made arrangements to move by Fayetteville, but received a dispatch from General Bragg stating that Schofield was moving up the west bank of Cape Fear River. His dispatch contradicting this report was not received until yesterday, when my troops and trains were moving on the Rockingham road, and I had ordered the destruction of all bridges on the Fayetteville road. Sherman, I think, will march to Fayetteville, to form a junction with Schofield and to obtain supplies.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR GREENSBOROUGH, N. C.,

March 4, 1865.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,

Fayetteville :

(Care Colonel Childs.)

I am on the way to join you. In the meantime keep before the enemy and endeavor to impede his march. Tennessee troops are on the way.

J. E. JOHNSTON,

General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, }
No. 11.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, N. C., March 4, 1865.

* * * * *

V. Stewart's and Cheatham's corps, with any troops of Lee's corps, Army of Tennessee, that may arrive at Chester, S. C., will proceed by rail to Smithfield, N. C., in the shortest possible time, moving from Chester, S. C., with baggage, &c., complete and three days' cooked rations. Five days' rations in bulk, for issue to the troops when needed, will be drawn at Charlotte, N. C., as the troops pass. Artillery, wagons, and animals will also be shipped by rail. No reshipment will take place in Charlotte, N. C. The troops should move well supplied with ammunition.

* * * * *

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, }
No. 12.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, N. C., March 4, 1865.

For the purpose of collecting and providing for the prompt restoration to their several regiments, battalions, and companies, all absentees from Lee's, Stewart's, and Cheatham's corps, the following measures will be taken without delay:

First. Brigadier-General Mackall, Provisional Army, C. S., in addition to his other duties, is specially charged with the general supervision of the service involved, his headquarters being at Macon, Ga., and he will take all practicable steps to recall to their colors all who are absent from any other cause than actual disability for field service or on properly granted furloughs. To this end he will establish camps at Columbus, Atlanta, Albany, Macon, and Augusta, Ga., Montgomery, Selma, and Mobile, Ala., and at Jackson, Macon, and Columbus, Miss., and such other points as may be found expedient, to which absentees living in the vicinities, respectively, shall be required to repair and report, and to which will be sent all those who may be collected by neighboring enrolling officers who will be called on to give assistance under the regulations of the Conscript Bureau. He will also require all officers and men to repair to the nearest rendezvous appointed, who may be absent by any authority less than that of these headquarters, or of the commander of the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana, in which case he will make a requisition for such absentees upon that commander, to whom he will communicate a copy of these orders, with a request for the necessary orders to enable him to execute his duties within the limits of that command.

Second. All officers and men collected at the several rendezvous established under these orders, south and west of Montgomery, Ala., will be concentrated as soon as practicable at that place, and those brought together in Georgia will be assembled at Augusta. They will there be formed into temporary companies of sixty privates, and into battalions of eight companies each; will be clothed, armed, and equipped as well as practicable and sent forward without delay to the army in the field.

Third. Corps commanders will cause consolidated descriptive lists to be made out at once and sent in to these headquarters of all absentees from their commands, which shall also indicate, in the column of remarks, as accurately as may be, the place of residence or home vicinage of each individual absentee.

Fourth. Officers will be detailed from each corps to proceed without delay to Macon to report to General Mackall to assist either as commandants of the camps of rendezvous, or in such other ways in the discharge of the duties provided for in these orders as General Mackall may direct.

These officers should be selected with a view to special fitness for the duty and should be impressed with the vital importance to this army of the most active performance of the duties intrusted to them.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, March 4, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte, N. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th ultimo, in relation to the troops and trains at Augusta, on the 27th ultimo. It was brought by Captain Hazzard, not Lieutenant Trenholm, who has not yet reported. I was therefore in the dark in respect to the condition of the army and affairs which Lieutenant Trenholm was charged to communicate. The orders and instructions embraced in your letter have all been carried out. The troops arriving here are being organized and equipped, and would have moved forward, in pursuance to your instructions from Charlotte of the 24th ultimo, to General Hill, received on the 2d instant, but the non-arrival of army trains and stores prevented. The trains are detained at Milledgeville in consequence of the high freshet in the Oconee, which has caused the pontoon bridge to be removed. Every effort is being made to hurry them up, in order that they can move with the troops. Your communication of the 13th ultimo, directing me to report with others of the staff, was not received until the 2d instant. I had made preparations to leave this morning, but last night your orders to General Young of the 27th ultimo were received, by which I am directed to remain here. General Young is preparing to carry out his instructions, but will be delayed for want of pontoon train. This was detained at Macon, in pursuance of orders from Lieutenant-General Taylor and General M. L. Smith. I send telegrams on this subject for your information.

In pursuance of your letter of the 24th, orders have been issued to the staff of the Army of Tennessee to report to General Joseph E. Johnston at Charlotte. Major-General Elzey, chief of artillery, will remain

here with the light batteries. I would respectfully suggest that it would be well, under existing circumstances, that the larger portion be removed to some interior point, not only on account of safety, but for convenience to forage, &c. After the departure of General Young and the trains and troops of the army Augusta will be uncovered. Nothing will be left but Cumming's small brigade of Georgia Reserves and Browne's Reserves. On the 28th [25th] instant Governor Brown sent a dispatch to General Fry, notifying that he intended withdrawing his militia; and on Sunday, the 26th, without any notification, the militia abandoned the lines and left. I telegraphed Governor Brown on the subject, but received no answer. I send you copy of communication from him to you on this subject. In this state of affairs it would be better to remove the artillery. All the artillery companies left in Mississippi have gone to Mobile, under orders from Lieutenant-General Taylor, except five companies sent to Demopolis. The order for its reorganization General Elzey informs me he did not receive, and was not aware of its existence until I called his attention to it and gave him a copy. The railroad has been completed to Atlanta from West Point, and I have directed Major Hottle to transfer his force to the east of it and work eastwardly, until he meets Captain Grant. Captain Grant reports that he cannot complete the work until the middle of April. The bridge over the Alcony will be finished in ten days. I should be glad to have your views in relation to the amount of stores to be kept on hand in this section, and the best points for their location; what lines of route are most likely to become important, in order that repairs may be looked after. Under existing circumstances, the route from Washington to Abbeville seems to have lost some of its value. The reconnaissance of that route shows the dirt road to be very bad and at present impracticable. I would call your attention to the fact that the gauge of the West Point and Montgomery road is the narrow one. It is highly important that this be remedied. There is no commanding officer at Columbia, and great confusion exists there. Beyond there is no courier-line. I have ordered Colonel Rudler to that place as commandant, with instructions to establish a through line.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., March 4, 1865.

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Chester, S. C.:

Troops, wagons, artillery, and caissons must move from Chester to Salisbury without reshipment at this place. Trains will be sent as soon as possible. Remain at Chester until troops commence leaving and things are working systematically, and then proceed to Salisbury and arrange there, and push them ahead as rapidly as possible. Is Ayer with General Stewart?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[MARCH 4, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (three dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1124.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 4, 1865—8.25 p. m.

Col. J. WARREN GRIGSBY,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: Major-General Wheeler desires you to take the wagons to some point north of the latitude of Wadesborough. It is reported the enemy are moving on Wadesborough and will be there with infantry to-morrow. We are just turning in direction of Wadesborough.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,
M. G. HUDSON,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 4, 1865—9.15 p. m.

Col. J. W. GRIGSBY,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I wrote you a few minutes since to move with the trains to some point north of the latitude of Wadesborough. Major-General Wheeler now directs that you move with them to Lanesborough. After getting to that point you will move with the trains in a northeasterly direction, leaving Wadesborough to the right. Keep a lookout, and report any information you may hear of the enemy. You will organize the men so as to defend the train if attacked.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,
M. G. HUDSON,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

GOLDSBOROUGH, March 4, 1865.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Duplin Road:

It was intended to concentrate Sheppard's train only at Warsaw. Continue to use your own train, as you yesterday telegraphed Major Cameron you were doing, but at same time keep it available to aid in transporting from Warsaw the supplies there being collected, in event of a movement as indicated in Major Cameron's telegram to you yesterday.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, March 5, 1865.

General JOHNSTON:

Endeavor to supply your army by collecting subsistence through the country. That at depots is necessary for Army of Northern Virginia.
R. E. LEE.

RICHMOND, March 5, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

In moving troops on North Carolina Railroad please do not interrupt transportation of supplies to this army.

R. E. LEE.

MARCH 5, 1865.

[General JOHNSTON:]

The point of uniting with General Bragg, as well as the force of the enemy against which to operate, must be determined by you. I wish you to act as you think best.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

In absence of General Johnston I report that three brigades of Stewart's corps left Chesterville at 11 o'clock to-day. The rest of his corps and Cheatham's will arrive there to-day in time to follow movement of Stevenson's corps from here, and as rapidly as railroad transportation will permit.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

General JOHNSTON:

General Hampton reports from near White's Store at 9 p. m. yesterday that Fourteenth Corps is moving on Wadesborough, and Twentieth Corps on a road to its right. Prisoners say they expect to reach Wadesborough to-night.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

(Same to General R. E. Lee.)

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865—12 m.*General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh, N. C.:

Three brigades of Stewart's corps left Chesterville at 11 to-day. The rest of his corps and Cheatham's will arrive there to-day in time to follow movement of Stevenson's corps from here.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 5, 1865.*

General JOHNSTON:

I respectfully suggest that from Page's Depot to Aven's Ferry, thence to Jonesborough, thence to Fayetteville by Wilmington Railroad, is the shortest route to Fayetteville from North Carolina Railroad. Arrangements have been made to have six large flats at ferry.

F. L. CHILDS,
*Colonel, Commanding.*RICHMOND, *March 5, 1865.*

Col. J. M. KENNARD:

Major Sloan has some supplies at Raleigh. Send an energetic messenger after your ammunition. Let him report to Colonel Rains, to whom I have sent instructions about cartridges. Vanderford was lately assigned as your assistant at Tupelo.

J. GORGAS,
Chief of Ordnance.

RICHMOND, *March 5, 1865.*

Major MOORE:

The subsistence already collected and in the depots of North Carolina must not be issued or retained for General Johnston's army. You must subsist it from the country likely to be overrun by the enemy. The Army of Northern Virginia requires every pound of subsistence now collected and all that be made available for shipment for Virginia over and above your absolute wants. Reply.

I. M. ST. JOHN.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

General A. P. STEWART,
Chester, S. C.:

Instructions have been sent you. You will move when you can pass through here to Salisbury, thus avoiding reshipment at this place. Instructions sent by Surgeon Darby.

J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Chester ville, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Lieut. Col. JOHN M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C.:

Cheatham's corps has 4,697 men, 44 wagons and ambulances, 14 pieces of artillery, 7 caissons, and 412 animals. Stewart's corps has 1,694 men, 22 wagons and ambulances, 6 pieces of artillery, 2 caissons, and 238 animals. Captain Steele, engineer of General Wheeler's command, came with me to this place. Knowing nothing else to do with him, will bring him along. He has 185 men, 4 wagons, and 57 animals.

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON:
(Care of General Hardee, Cheraw, via Fayetteville, N. C.)

Your train and Butler's move to-morrow morning, via Albemarle, Troy, Carthage, and Fayetteville.

J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
March 5, 1865—12.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to say that he is at White's house, about eight miles from Wadesborough. Law has gone into camp beyond here and will picket toward Wadesborough and will send out scouts to endeavor to locate the enemy. He is ordered to be ready to move at daylight. General Hampton desires you to close up everything on this road and camp wherever you can find forage. He is informed

that there is a large quantity of corn at Mr. Scales', probably enough for your whole command. General Hampton desires you to be ready to move in at daylight in the morning. He desires to push into Wadesborough if possible, and wishes that you would endeavor to locate the enemy by a few good scouts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Law will be in advance in the morning.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
March 5, 1865—6.40 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to inquire whether General Allen has come up and fed, and whether you have any information. Did Humes get corn?

Very respectfully,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Wadesborough, March 5, 1865—4 p. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I learn from citizens that the only place we can ford the river is at Grassy Island, which is eleven miles from this place. They state that there is an abundance of forage in the vicinity of Grassy Island. Grassy Island is twelve miles above Sneedsborough. The ferries above Sneedsborough are as follows: First, Haile's, five miles above; second, Wall's, four miles above Haile's; third, Stanback's, ten miles above Wall's and five miles above Grassy Island; fourth, Dumas' Ferry, five miles above Stanback's.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 5, 1865.

Col. J. WARREN GRIGSBY,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: Major-General Wheeler desires you to move, with the trains, to Lanesborough and then move in an easterly direction, leaving Wadesborough to right and cross Pedee River. We move toward Wadesborough and will try to keep between you and the enemy. You must keep out scouts so as not to run unawares on the enemy.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

M. G. HUDSON,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

CHARLOTTE, *March 5, 1865.*
(Received 4 o'clock.)

General COOPER:

Part of my troops are with General Hardee and that part under commandant of prison camps scattered over two States. Will you order them all to be at once reported back to me. Shall I remain with the army or return with reserves to South Carolina?

JAS. CHESNUT, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

Have trains unloaded and unblock railroad that trains may leave here. Furnish agent of road with hands and buckets to supply wood and water to locomotives. Please give your special attention to the unloading and loading of trains, and render every assistance. Major Morfit is represented as being a suitable man.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. B. T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

Please have trains unloaded and returned here. See to the loading of trains going to Raleigh and other points and have no delay at Salisbury.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

No one is authorized to grant leaves of absence or detach officers or men except Generals Johnston and Beauregard.

J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *March 5, 1865.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President, &c.:

Mr. PRESIDENT: This military department having been merged by the General-in-Chief, as a natural consequence of the present condition, in the command of General Johnston, it fairly terminates the temporary command to which you assigned me. For this and other reasons which present themselves to your mind as forcibly as I could express them, I beg that you will relieve me from the embarrassing position. I seek no command or position, and only desire to be ordered to await assignment to duty at some point in Georgia or Alabama. The circumstances constraining me to make this request are painful in the extreme, but I cannot blindly disregard them. You will find many abler servants to fill my place, but I feel the country has had none more sincerely devoted.

I am, dear sir, as ever, your friend and servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 5, 1865.*

[General JOHNSTON:]

In a dispatch just received from General Hardee he says he received a dispatch from me saying Schofield was moving up west bank of Cape Fear. I sent no such dispatch. On the contrary, on learning Colonel Childs had given such information, it was promptly contradicted by Colonel Anderson, and General Hardee correctly advised.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,

Rockingham, March 5, 1865—5.30 p. m.

General BRAGG:

GENERAL: I have forwarded your dispatch to General Hardee. The rear of his column left this place at 11 a. m. I will remain here to-night with one brigade cavalry. The enemy crossed at Cheraw yesterday morning and drove in my pickets at daylight, two miles from the river, on the road to Fayetteville. From the columns of smoke seen below, they appear to be marching toward Fayetteville. The Fifteenth Corps was at Society Hill day before yesterday, and my impression is that the Seventeenth and Fifteenth will cross there, and the Twentieth and Fourteenth at Cheraw. General Hardee is on the road to Ashborough. Brigadier-General Robertson was cut off on the other side the Pedee with a cavalry brigade and will cross on the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad bridge, from which point he has been ordered to Fayetteville. If you can communicate with him it would be well to hurry him up. He has, I think, a battery of artillery, also. Sherman, I have no doubt, is making for Fayetteville.

M. C. BUTLER,

Major-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

T. J. SUMNER,

Superintendent, Salisbury, N. C.:

If saddles and sabers have not left Salisbury keep them there. Captain Lipscomb will be there in a day or so.

J. M. OTEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

T. J. SUMNER,

Superintendent, Salisbury, N. C.:

Please give your special attention to the unloading and loading of trains that they may return here. Call on General Johnson at Salisbury for assistance.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Chester, S. C.:

Move at once to Salisbury and take charge of transportation of troops and material.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Chesterville, S. C.:

Are Sharp's and Brantly's brigades with Stewart's or Cheatham's troops or on way from Augusta? They belong to Lee's corps.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865—8 p. m.*

Colonel CREWS,

Commanding Cavalry Brigade:

(Care of General Stewart or Cheatham, Chesterville, S. C.)

Cross your command at Catawba railroad bridge, and move, via Monroe, to Rockingham or Fayetteville, avoiding Wadesborough, where enemy is reported to be, and report to General Hampton or Wheeler.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 6, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

A paper in regard to shipment of supplies to this place, with indorsements by General Beauregard and yourself, just received. Of course your army must be fed, but it is desirable to have its supplies collected, if possible, from the country by officers serving in the field. When absolutely necessary to use supplies collected at depots by the commissary department here, please direct the proper officers to inform Commissary-General. General Lee's army is in a great strait for provisions.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 6, 1865.*
(Received 9.15 7th.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

Such orders as you direct for procuring subsistence for this army have been already given.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, *March 6, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Have just received copy of telegram to you from Hardee, saying he is moving on Greensborough. He has not received instructions of 24th ultimo. He should be recalled at once to Fayetteville or Raleigh. Shall troops from here be sent to Smithfield or Raleigh?*

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, *March 6, 1865—2 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Fayetteville, N. C.:*

To save time, I have sent following dispatch from here and Greensborough to General Hardee, on road from Rockingham: "March at once on Fayetteville, if possible; if not, then on Raleigh."

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

*As received by Johnston; but see dispatch as recorded in Beauregard's telegrams-sent book, under date of March 7, p. 1336.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865—8.45 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Hampton reports, at 5 p. m. yesterday, the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps at Sneedsborough, Fifteenth and Seventeenth at Cheraw; each column preparing to cross river.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 6, 1865—11.30 p. m.*

General BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte:

Dispatch 2 p. m. received. I had given same orders to General Hardee.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

Captain GOODMAN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

ObeY order of Quartermaster-General, but it is not seen by your dispatch why you cannot comply with both orders.

J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Chester, S. C.:

Come here on first train.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS, *Rock Hill, S. C.:*

Needed badly at Salisbury.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

General BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

Direct railroad agent to send the trains here at such times as will not delay trains going from here to Salisbury.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

Col. A. L. RIVES,
Engineer Bureau, Richmond, Va.:

General Gilmer has left for Richmond.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7 [6?], 1865.*

Major CHISMAN, OR
POST QUARTERMASTER,

Greensborough, N. C.:

Send messenger forthwith and with utmost celerity in direction of Rockingham with copy of this dispatch,* directing General Hardee to march at once on Fayetteville, if possible; if not, then on Raleigh. Answer and report action.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

Maj. SAMUEL R. CHISMAN,
Greensborough, N. C.:

Send horses to Raleigh and notify Lieutenant Adams, who is in charge of guns, when he passes Greensborough. Adams left this morning.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *March 6, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Secretary of War directs that under General Orders, No. 4, present series, you can authorize the taking of animals for public use that are likely to fall into hands of the enemy. I beg you to give such orders to my officers as will insure our getting such stock.

A. H. COLE,
Major and Inspector.

RICHMOND, *March 6, 1865.*

[General J. E. JOHNSTON:]

My officers are directed to report to you for orders. Hope they may be able to supply your wants. If you deem my presence necessary, please say so.

A. H. COLE,
Major, &c.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, N. C., March 6, 1865.

Lient. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Rockingham:

GENERAL: I have just received a copy of your telegram of the 4th instant from Rockingham to General Johnston, who is on his way to Fayetteville. You should have followed the instructions contained in my letter of the 26th ultimo (acknowledged by Colonel Roy) and not of the 24th. Fayetteville and Raleigh being evidently the objective points of the enemy, General Johnston and myself contemplate a concentration of forces at the first of those points if possible; otherwise, at the latter. You are therefore directed to remove at once, and rapidly,

* Probably Beauregard to Hardee, March 6, fourth, *post*.

from your present position to Fayetteville, if still practicable; if not, to Raleigh. The ends to be attained by this movement are so momentous—indeed, so vital—to success of operations which have been determined upon, that it is expected you will permit none but insurmountable obstacles to turn you aside from the attempt, except, of course, if General Johnston should see cause, in the existing state of affairs, to change your instructions and give other orders.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

BARBEE'S, March 6, 1865—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

(Care Colonel Childs, Fayetteville.)

It is too late to turn to Fayetteville. Take the best route to Raleigh. It may be through Egypt, crossing both Deep and Haw Rivers, near their junction. There is a bridge over Deep River. You must not go toward Greensborough, but to Raleigh, if you cannot turn to Fayetteville, of which you must judge. Where is the cavalry?

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

Abstract from field return of McLaws' division, for March 6, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
	Officers.	Men.			
Harrison's brigade			948	1,075	1,156
Blanchard's brigade			481	552	595
Fiser's brigade			787	830	899
Henderson's brigade			270	344	385
Hardy's brigade			509	676	733
Conner's brigade			1,383	1,448	1,570
Grand total*			4,378	4,934	5,338

* Note in column of remarks shows Earle's battalion of artillery with 307 effective total and 346 aggregate present.

DARLINGTON COURT-HOUSE, March 6, 1865.

Captain LILLARD,

Commanding:

CAPTAIN: I take pleasure in communicating in writing the dispatch from Brigadier-General Robertson:

Express to Captain Lillard and his gallant Tennesseans my thanks for their handsome behavior yesterday.

Yours, very respectfully,

JOHN JENKS,
Major.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 6, 1865.

J. S. THRASHER,
Superintendent Press Association, Charlotte, N. C.:

General Chesnut has been ordered to report his command of Reserves to General Johnston. It is very important to the Government to establish the line of couriers, but it devolves upon General Johnston to determine whether the cavalry can be spared.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 6, 1865.*

His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

I thank you for your kind offer to feed the passing troops, and have instructed operator as suggested.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 6, 1865—3 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville:

The enemy's advance was this morning nine miles from Kinston. They are in heavy force and moving in confidence. A few hours would suffice to unite the forces at Smithfield with mine and insure a victory.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., *March 6, 1865—8.30 p. m.*

General B. BRAGG,
Goldsborough:

In obedience to the orders of the general-in-chief General Johnston assumes command of the troops serving in North Carolina.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 6, 1865—10 p. m.*

General BRAGG,
Goldsborough:

General Johnston desires you will call the troops at Smithfield down to Goldsborough. Orders will be sent to those passing Raleigh to go to Goldsborough. As these troops are required against Sherman also, they can only leave Goldsborough for a few hours for an impending fight.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 7, 1865—12.20 a. m.

The commanding officer of troops at Smithfield will, in compliance with the above instructions, proceed by rail with his command to Kinston, N. C., as soon as transportation, which is ordered, will be furnished. Prompt action must be taken.

By order of General Bragg:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 6, 1865—10.30 p. m.*

Major-General HOKE,

Kinston:

The suggestion of a concentration against the force confronting you was telegraphed General Johnston to-day at 3 p. m.

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BARBEE'S, *March 6, 1865—10 a. m.*

Colonel CHILDS,

Fayetteville:

Send following and previous dispatches immediately to General Hardee:

Following dispatch just received, dated March 5, 1865—

"General Hampton reports from near White's Store, at 9 p. m. yesterday, that Fourteenth Corps is moving on Wadesborough, and Twentieth Corps on a road to its right. Prisoners say they expect to reach Wadesborough to-night.

G. T. BEAUREGARD."

If the enemy move upon the North Carolina Railroad, do so too. If they move on Fayetteville, do so too, if practicable; if not, upon Raleigh, as previously instructed.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Near Fair Ground, N. C., March 6, 1865—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS:

COLONEL: Agreeably to instructions from General Johnston, I am moving my command, via Monroe's Bridge and New Gilead, to Fayetteville. I hope to reach Fayetteville in three or four days (not counting to-day). Major-General Butler's cavalry will move on the road to Graham's Bridge and parallel roads. Have supplies of forage and rations collected at Fayetteville for my command. Inform General Johnston by telegraph of my movements.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., *March 6, 1865—10.30 p. m.*

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Raleigh:

General Johnston requests you will yourself convey to officers commanding all troops reaching Raleigh from west his orders to proceed immediately to Goldsborough. See that quartermasters make necessary railroad arrangements. Acknowledge.

A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7 [6?], 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Raleigh or Smithfield, N. C.:

Obtain instructions from General Johnston at Fayetteville as to your future movements. Where are operators needed?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, {	ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 55. }	<i>Richmond, March 7, 1865.</i>
* *	* . *

XXIV. Brig. Gen. James Chesnut, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty under General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding, &c., and will report accordingly.

* * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHEERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

General RAINS, *Greensborough:*

I wish subterra shells in hands of my cavalry, now between Fayetteville and the Pedee, and beyond Goldsborough near Kinston.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Fayetteville, N. C.:*

On evening of 5th Hampton was at Wadesborough, on way to form junction with Hardee by crossing Pedee at Grassy Island.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7 [6?], 1865.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Fayetteville, N. C.:*

Have just received copy telegram to you from Hardee, saying he is moving on Greensborough. He has not obeyed my instructions of 26th ultimo. He should be recalled at once to Fayetteville or Raleigh. Shall troops from here be sent to Smithfield or Raleigh?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: A report from General Hampton, dated 5 p. m. on the 5th, places the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps at Sneedsbrough and the Fifteenth and Seventeenth at Cheraw, both columns preparing to cross. General Butler's dispatch of the same date puts both farther south, and on the march to Fayetteville. It appears that he is far from their route. His main force should be on it, and if you are on a different one, you require a small cavalry force in your rear. Please give General Butler these instructions as soon as possible. It is of the utmost importance that all our forces unite on the enemy's line of march and in his front. Should you be unable to move on Fayetteville on account of the enemy's progress, the nearest point above at which you can cross the river is at Aven's Ferry, a few miles below the junction of Haw and Deep Rivers. The railroad company (Coal Fields road from here) has at the ferry a small steamer and four large flat-boats. Should an enemy press, you can cross Deep River on a bridge a mile or two from its mouth, and Haw River by means of the steamer and flats. The latter, I am told, will make a length sufficient to form a floating bridge. After crossing the Cape Fear turn down to the Fayetteville and Raleigh road and strike it as near as you well can to the river. It crosses at McNeill's Ferry. Please let me know as soon as possible what route you are taking, and from time to time your progress. Should General Butler and yourself be on different roads, let him give all important information directly to me as well as to you. Should you take the Fayetteville road any stores not required on your march might be sent to Raleigh by Aven's Ferry.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Near McKinnon's, Thirty-four Miles from Fayetteville,
March 7, 1865—9 p. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of this date received. I had already informed you, in repeated dispatches, of my change of route toward Fayetteville and the progress of my march. My supply train and reserve artillery moved by Carthage road, and reached Carthage to-night. I have ordered Major-General Butler to ascertain the position and movements of the enemy's columns, and to keep directly in front of their line of march. I have heard nothing from General Butler to-day. He should be on the Graham's Bridge road.

Respectfully, your obedient,

W. J. HARDEE,
Major-General.

NEAR GRASSY PLACE FORD,
March 7, 1865—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: I have succeeded with great difficulty in getting most of my command across the river to-day, and I hope the whole of it will be over to-night. The Fourteenth Corps was crossing at Wall's Ferry last evening, that corps being on the left. Kilpatrick is now at Rockingham. General Wheeler killed ten of his men a few hours ago, and drove the

rest close up to the town. I shall get everything together near here to-night, and then be ready to move as circumstances require. I wish to have Butler with me, so as to operate to more advantage. Can you not let me have a small battery till mine comes up? I am now near Bethel Church, on the road to Rockingham, and three miles below Grassy Island Ford. As soon as my command can be concentrated I shall move round the left flank of the enemy to his front. Do let me hear from you.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WADE HAMPTON.

(Forwarded to General Johnston by General Hardee.)

HDQRS. DEPT OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Twenty-eight Miles from Fayetteville, March [7?], 1865.

General WADE HAMPTON:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch. General Butler is at Bostick's, and has no [doubt] reported to you. If not, order him to do so. I am glad you are across the river. General Johnston wishes you to get in front of the enemy and to move in front of him if he should advance on Fayetteville; if on Wilmington, to "dog his rear a few marches." My command will reach Fayetteville day after to-morrow. I will send Robertson's brigade to join you as soon as I can get hold of it. The last I heard of it it was crossing the Pedee at the railroad bridge, and I hope to find it at Fayetteville. Let me know what can be done to aid you.

With best wishes for your success, I am, very truly,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—I will order a battery to join you. I will order it to Monroe's Bridge, there to await your orders.

W. J. H.

P. P. S.—On reading your dispatch again I have decided that your battery will come up before mine can possibly reach you.

W. J. H.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865.*

Major-General D. H. HILL, *Smithfield*:

Should General Bragg be about to fight join him for battle. Keep your cars and return the moment it is over. Ascertain if General Bragg can command cars to transport your troops at a moment's notice. Tell me in what time the trip can be made. I beg you to forget the past for this emergency.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CATAWBA, *March 7, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

I will not interfere with pontoon bridge here. Most of animals have been stolen from train. There is pontoon bridge at Hughey's Ferry, opposite Newberry.

S. D. LEE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
General Dockery's House, March 7, 1865.

General HAMPTON:

GENERAL: I think it [will] be advisable at least to keep these roads picketed until the whole command is across the river. General Dockery desires me to say he will be pleased to have you make your quarters at his house to-night. My quarters will be just opposite.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

9 P. M.

General WHEELER:

General Hampton directs me to say that he has already given instructions as you suggest. It is now so late that he must decline General Dockery's kind invitation.

Respectfully,
H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865—11 a. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Goldsborough:

Sherman is reported by our cavalry marching on this place from Cheraw. Our troops have marched to the north, so there is nothing to impede his march. We shall probably have to concentrate north of this. I think it necessary, therefore, to keep the troops at Smithfield instead of Goldsborough. The difference in time of reaching you by railroad would be trifling. Send trains when fight is impending and send back troops as soon as it is over. General Hill is instructed to join you for battle and return as soon as it is over.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865—11 a. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville:

General Hoke, at Kinston, thinks Schofield in his front. A deserter from the enemy yesterday also makes this report. I go down immediately, having arranged to bring on troops rapidly. No delay will occur in making an issue.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

General B. BRAGG,
Goldsborough:

Consider in your operations in front of Goldsborough that Cheatham's corps, and more than half of Stewart's, are on the way from Chester-ville to Smithfield by railroad, and will have the same orders as Hill's troops.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865—2 p. m.*

General [BRAXTON BRAGG]:

I have instructed Major-General Hill, at Smithfield, to join you with his troops for a battle. At present they are S. D. Lee's corps, commanded by General Hill, and three brigades of Stewart's. Cheatham's corps, and the remainder of Stewart's, were to leave Chesterville by railroad on Sunday. When they come up Stewart will command, and the force be more than doubled. On the 5th Butler's cavalry was much to the north of the enemy's route, and Hampton's still farther from it, in the direction of Charlotte, the Federal army being then near Cheraw. General Hardee was to the north of Butler. There is, therefore, nothing to delay Sherman's march. I am anxious to concentrate all our troops in his front on this river, in the hope that the Federals may cross it at two points, and then give us an opportunity to fight to an advantage. It seems to me necessary under such circumstances that the Tennessee troops should remain at Smithfield until you have an opportunity to fight; then join you by railroad, and after action return in the same manner to be ready to meet General Hardee. Major-General Hill has been instructed accordingly. I am remaining here to get information of General Hardee's movements.

Most respectfully,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
*General.*KINSTON, *March 7, 1865—7.30 p. m.*Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Fayetteville:

Schofield's corps is reported in our front by several deserters and prisoners. They confront us four miles from here.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

KINSTON, *March 7, 1865—7.30 p. m.*Col. JOHN B. SALE, *Goldsborough:*

Hurry forward all troops. Send down to the artillery of Hoke's division to march at 2 o'clock. Schofield's corps is in our front and movements indicate attack.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Goldsborough, March 7, 1865.*Major CAMERON,
Chief Quartermaster:

General Bragg directs that the inclosed orders* be forwarded promptly by some reliable messenger, to be designated by you, on a locomotive to the commanding officer at Smithfield. Transportation must be afforded at once for the transfer of this force, about 5,000, to Kinston. The general desires that no delay will occur in the passage through this point. Please receipt for this and notify me of action.

Very respectfully,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp.

* Not found as inclosures.

KINSTON, *March 7, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Major CAMERON,

Chief Quartermaster, Goldsborough :

Don't allow a moment to be lost in hurrying forward troops that arrive to-night and to-morrow.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CIRCULAR.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,

Goldsborough, March 7, 1865.

The functions and authority of respective chiefs of staff departments are limited strictly to the duties legitimately pertaining to their several departments. When orders are desired to be issued to any command of the army, or to the chiefs of any other staff department, application will be made in writing to the office of the assistant adjutant-general, which alone is the office of orders. This will avoid irregularity, confusion, and conflicting dispositions, as well as hesitation in complying with the order.

By direction of the general commanding :

JOHN B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,

Goldsborough, March 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE, *Kinston :*

GENERAL: Your letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, assistant adjutant general, of — instant, in reference to calling in scattering transportation, was duly received by your courier (the bearer of this), and upon return of the commanding general from Raleigh was referred to Major Cameron, chief quartermaster, with appropriate indorsement, complying with your request. Your telegram to Major Cameron of 3d instant, the general directs me to say, has been acted on. It is the one concerning impressment of mules.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE, *Kinston :*

Will join you this evening, and wish to consult you and Baker. Keep me advised up to 2 p. m. Push all to the front and be ready for a blow.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE, *Kinston :*

All arrivals will report to you. Move them to position immediately, that no time may be lost after I join. Hagood delayed by accident to a train, but will be up soon.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Kinston, March 7, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: General Bragg directs that you will designate an officer of your command for the purpose of collecting such means of transportation for sick and wounded as the neighboring country will afford.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
F. S. PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 7, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Commanding, Northeast River, N. C.

COLONEL: General Bragg directs me to inclose to you the accompanying copy of a letter* just received from Governor Vance, and to instruct you to proceed at once to carry into execution the governor's suggestions, adding Sampson County to those named in the letter. Try discreetly to induce owners of able-bodied slaves in these counties to voluntarily conform, if they will. If they will not, then take the slaves by force. Remove them to Raleigh by rail, if necessary, calling for needed transportation for the purpose. It will be supplied, if not imperatively required elsewhere for public use. Report your proceedings to these headquarters. Lose no time. Governor Vance will give employment to the slaves on public works for the State, and doubtless suitable compensation to owners. Have lists carefully prepared of owners and the slaves of each, with descriptions of the latter.

I am, colonel, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, March 7, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Commanding at Northeast River, N. C.:

Send the regiment of Senior Reserves to Goldsborough to report to General Baker's headquarters. Transportation will be furnished on telegraphing quartermaster here.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 7, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Commanding, &c., Northeast River, N. C.:

COLONEL: General Bragg, commanding, directs that the regiment of Senior Reserves near you be removed by rail to this place at once; quartermaster to furnish transportation on application. I have just telegraphed you to this effect. The two companies of infantry and one of artillery up the Cape Fear River might be cut off in the event of an advance by the enemy this way, either from Wilmington or Kinston. A telegraphic order to-day has been sent to commanding officer at Teachey's Station (intended for yourself), to be sent thence by courier,

* See March 3, p. 1318.

that they march at once to Fayetteville and there report to General Johnston. The other troops under your command (supposed to be the cavalry and home guards), you will hold well in hand, ready to move this way at a moment's notice; but this is not designed to delay your execution of instructions sent you by mail to-day for removing from certain named counties all able-bodied male negroes, as requested by Governor Vance. Proceed with that duty till interrupted by orders to move, keeping yourself prepared to obey the latter.

Very respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, March 7, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER TEACHEY'S STATION:

Send order by courier to officer commanding two companies of infantry and one of artillery on Cape Fear River, to march direct to Fayetteville and report to General Johnston.

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, March 7, 1865.

Maj. J. L. CROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Kinston:

There was no unnecessary delay in the passage of your troops through this point.

FRANK PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 7, 1865.

Col. F. M. PARKER,
Commanding, Raleigh, N. C.:

General Bragg directs you keep an officer at depot all night to report to Maj. John W. Cameron arrival and departure of all troops this way and hurry them on to Kinston. Telegraph Maj. W. H. Harvey, superintendent, also the arrival and departure of all trains, so as to avoid collisions. Telegraph the operator at Smithfield also. Keep telegraph office open all night. General Bragg gone to front at Kinston.

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, March 7, 1865—12.30 p. m.

Maj. K. JOHNS, *Raleigh:*

General Johnston directs, by authority Secretary of War, you employ as much force as you can in collecting animals under General Orders, No. 4, present series, in front of enemy and along his line of march.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Send field transportation collecting at Greensborough by county road to Raleigh.

A. A.

(Same to Major Edmonston, Greensborough.)

MARCH 7, 1865—7.30 p. m.

Major HOOPER,
Quartermaster, Raleigh:

Don't allow a moment to be lost in sending forward the troops arriving. They should run through to this point without changing trains. Give a copy of this to commanding officers as they arrive.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

TELEGRAPH OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD, N. C.:

Telegraph Maj. W. H. Harvey of the departure of all trains coming this way, so as to avoid collisions. Keep office open all night.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fayetteville, March 7, 1865.

TO ANY OFFICER COMMANDING CAVALRY
IN FRONT OF FAYETTEVILLE:

General Johnston directs that you furnish Captain McKinney, assistant commissary of subsistence, or his agent, with ten mounted men for the purpose of carrying out the instructions of the War Department in collecting supplies on the enemy's line of march.

Respectfully,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LUMBERTON, N. C., *March 7, 1865.*

Lient. Col. F. L. CHILDS,
Commanding, Fayetteville, N. C.:

COLONEL: The dispatch sent by you and dated 11.15 o'clock has been received. Corporal Wright has returned. He saw the advance of the enemy on yesterday about eight miles beyond Floral College. They were going in the direction of Fayetteville. I have made arrangements with Major Norment to destroy the bridge on Lumber River in the event of my being cut off from Fayetteville before those cavalry shall have passed by way of this place. I am not aware that the enemy are advancing by way of this place.

I am, yours, truly,

L. W. CURRIE,
Lieutenant, Commanding Cavalry.

P. S.—Lieutenant Garrason has left here for your headquarters. I am not aware of Lieutenants Hanks' and Banks' whereabouts, so I was unable to send them that dispatch. I expect to fall back toward Fayetteville to-morrow. This dispatch leaves at 7.30 p. m.

L. W. C.

ANTIOCH CHURCH, *March 7, 1865—2 p. m.*

Colonel CHILDS:

COLONEL: The three bridges below Gilchrist's are McEachin's, McGist's, and Campbell's. Distance between McEachin's and Camp-

bell's Bridges is about five miles. I have a line communicating with Colonel Montgomery and from this place to Gilchrist's Bridge to watch the advance to that bridge, notwithstanding it was burned last night. Then I had a line across from this place to the W. J. Brown's, on the Lowry road, so as to get any news of an advance from Lumberton, but as Colonel Montgomery covers that bridge, I have drawn in the ten men on that cross-road to picket a road leading into the McGist's Bridge road. If the courier from Colonel Montgomery brings in any additional news I will send by this or another.

Respectfully, &c.,

MATTHEW P. TAYLOR,

Major Second North Carolina Battalion, Commanding Scout.

Mr. Carmichael reported just now that he saw rosin on the Davis Bridge. I have sent him back to tell the picket not to burn the bridge until he gets an order from me, as Colonel Montgomery will have to cross there as well as myself.

M. P. T.

HDQRS. DETACHMENT FIFTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
March 7, 1865.

Major TAYLOR, *Commanding Scouts:*

The enemy reached Laurinburg at 3 p. m. Are burning depot, railroad shops, &c. Have not moved in this direction yet.

J. G. M. MONTGOMERY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DETACHMENT,
March 7, 1865.

Major TAYLOR,
Commanding Cavalry Scouts:

MAJOR: I have moved across from the Stage road to this one in order to secure my retreat by McEachin's Bridge. The enemy are beyond Laurinburg. They are moving on three roads in this direction. As soon as they reach the road running south from Laurel Hill I can then ascertain their course with certainty. I shall cover the three bridges below Gilchrist's and destroy them if the enemy advance this way. When forced I shall fall back to Antioch Church and thence to Davis' Bridge, and will communicate any information I obtain of importance.

Respectfully,

J. G. M. MONTGOMERY,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fifth Tennessee Cavalry.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

Letter of 3d received concerning removal of slaves. Colonel Lipscomb is ordered to execute your request, and Sampson County added to the list.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
*Goldsborough, March 7, 1865.*His Excellency Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

The communication of Kemp P. Battle, esq., of the 6th instant, forwarded by yourself to General Bragg, came to hand to-day after the general had left for the front at Kinston. It will be laid before him whenever he returns. Meantime, as delay may be injurious to the purpose in view, I respectfully suggest that General J. E. Johnston be communicated with on the subject.

I have the honor to be, sir, most respectfully,

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.
(For General Bragg.)

CHARLOTTE, *March 7, 1865.*
(Received 3 o'clock.)

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War:

General Johnston being at Fayetteville is not accessible to me. I have had an interview with General Chesnut, commanding Reserves of South Carolina, who is here with a portion of his command and waiting explanation of orders from Richmond. His order to report to General Johnston was executed. Since then he has received General Orders, No. 8, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, February 23, and is undecided as to whether he is to return to South Carolina or remain with General Johnston. If he returns to South Carolina he assures me he can assign a sufficient number of men from the district through which the courier-line is to run who will mount themselves to make the line efficient and reliable without detriment to other branches of the service under his command, provided he is authorized or ordered to do so. General Chesnut asked from General Cooper an explanation of orders. Can the matter be decided at once and General Chesnut be authorized by telegraph to establish the line of couriers?

J. S. THRASHER,
General Superintendent Press Association.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Take charge of the transportation of troops, artillery, wagons, &c. Push them through as rapidly as possible. Call upon General Bradley T. Johnson for all the assistance you may need.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. J. M. KENNARD,
Chief Ordnance Officer, Raleigh, N. C.:

I will give all assistance possible for transportation of said ammunition. Major Willis is now at Salisbury attending to shipment of troops, after which he will attend to the ammunition.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel NAPIER,
Concord, N. C.:

March your command to Salisbury and call upon Major Willis, quartermaster, for transportation to Fayetteville.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, {
No. 56. }

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, March 8, 1865.

* * * * *
XXV. Paragraph XXIV, Special Orders, No. 55, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, is hereby revoked, and Brig. Gen. James Chesnut, Provisional Army, C. S., will return to South Carolina and enter actively upon the duties prescribed in General Orders, No. 8, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series. Such of the reserve forces of South Carolina as may be available will be placed under the orders of General J. E. Johnston, commanding, &c.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 8, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE:

Sherman has been marching with extended front. After concentration hope for opportunity to fight his divided troops. If unsuccessful, where can I cross Roanoke, and what route do you prefer? Am told that Ordnance Department has many boats at Clarksville. Want of pontoons great evil. Enemy amply supplied.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 8, 1865—2 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

General Hampton reports from Grassy Island Ford on 6th, at 4 p. m.:

Enemy all moved down river in direction of Sneedsborough and Cheraw.

He met only small party cavalry north Wadesborough.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 8, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

I respectfully suggest that Governor Vance and yourself call on the people residing along Sherman's supposed line of march to remove temporarily all their supplies and animals at least twenty miles to the right or left of his flank routes. Their negroes should be employed under proper engineer officers in obstructing roads and fords.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 8, 1865—2 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

General Hampton reports from Grassy Island Ford on the 6th, at 4 p. m.:

River being past fording, am crossing at ferries above and will use every exertion to cross everything rapidly as possible and form junction with troops on other side. Enemy all moved down river in direction of Saeedsborough and Cheraw.

He met only small party cavalry north Wadesborough.
G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MARCH 8, 1865.

Mr. D. G. McDUFFIN:

General Joe Johnston wishes to see you at his headquarters at Fayetteville Hotel to inquire of you with regard to the roads and streams between Fayetteville and the railroad to Goldsborough. By calling as early as practicable you will confer a favor.

Respectfully,

H. A. McSWAIN.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fayetteville, March 8, 1865—4 p. m.

General WADE HAMPTON:

General Johnston has received your dispatch dated 4 p. m. yesterday.* He instructs me to say that it is more important to observe the enemy's right flank than his left in order to prevent his communicating with the coast, and that he desires you to concentrate your main body as soon as possible in the enemy's immediate front. Sherman's advanced cavalry appeared this morning at 11 o'clock, at McEachin's and the neighboring bridges over Lumber River, and drove back the detachment of the Fifth Tennessee, under Lieutenant-Colonel Montgomery, to Antioch Church. This detachment is now the only force known to us between this place and the enemy.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
General Dockery's House, March 8, 1865—12.15 p. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: Your dispatch is received. There is very little forage on the road from Rockingham to Fayetteville, and I think the main column of the enemy will move on the road from Cheraw to Fayetteville, or on roads near to and parallel to that road, as it passes through a fruitful country. As soon as General Allen crosses I will order him on the plank road with instructions to send pickets on the road which runs from Rockingham to Fayetteville and strikes the plank road about twenty miles from Rockingham. I think the road last referred to will be the most northerly on which any column of the enemy will move. I think some of our troops ought to be on the direct road from Cheraw to Fayetteville. Shall I go or send troops there, or will General Butler

* See Hampton to Hardee, p. 1337.

send troops on that road? I will, pursuant to your instructions, keep General Humes, with his five small regiments, in position on this road so that we can successfully meet the enemy should he attempt to push up while General Allen is crossing the river. I will then move General Humes over on the plank road, leaving one regiment to cover General Dibrell while crossing. These are the dispositions which I presume from your note are desired. Should they not be please send me additional instructions by this courier. After leaving the vicinity of the river we will be unable to get corn until we get to Lumber River. There are three bridges over Lumber River, or Drowning Creek. The lower part is called by the former name and upper part by the latter. The highest is Blue's Bridge and is on the plank road running from Rockingham to Fayetteville. McLaws' Bridge is five miles below this, and Gilchrist's Bridge about five miles below McLaws'. The last mentioned is on the direct road from Cheraw to Fayetteville. I think we should take possession of these bridges immediately, before the enemy can take possession of, or citizens destroy, them. There are other bridges below Gilchrist's Bridge which I think we ought to destroy for at least fifteen miles below that point. I inclose a little sketch made from observation, and from information obtained from citizens, which I hope may be of some use to you. I will remain here until [I] receive a reply to this dispatch, as I fear if I move I may fail to get it.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., March 8, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JAMES CHESNUT, *Charlotte, N. C.*:

You will place under the orders of General J. E. Johnston, commanding, such of the reserve forces of South Carolina as are available, and then return to South Carolina and enter actively upon the duties prescribed in General Orders, No. 8, current series, from this office.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

FAYETTEVILLE, March 8, 1865—10.30 a. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Goldsborough*:

If you move Hill's and Stewart's troops, inform me. It is reported that the enemy was within thirty miles of Fayetteville at noon yesterday. It will soon be necessary to concentrate.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

IN THE FIELD, March 8, 1865—3.15 p. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Fayetteville*:

I have only Hill's, and we are now engaged with the enemy—so far successfully.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 8, 1865.*Maj. L. B. FRENCH,
Richmond, Va.:

Hoke struck enemy's rear at Kinston and captured 1,500 prisoners. So far battle progressing in our favor.

S. V. REID,
Major, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 57. *Near Kinston, March 8, 1865—12 p. m.*

I. Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill will move immediately to the front with all his command, and take the line now held by Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke. A staff officer, with guides, will be left to direct such troops as may arrive to the same point.

II. On being relieved Major-General Hoke, with his division, will move to the right, to turn the enemy's position, and strike him in flank.

III. Brig. Gen. L. S. Baker's command during this operation will be under Major-General Hill.

IV. As soon as it is perceived that Major-General Hoke's movement is successful, and that the enemy's line wavers, Major-General Hill will attack vigorously in front and push the enemy with his whole strength.

V. Major-General Hill should be in position so as to enable Major-General Hoke to move by 5 a. m.

VI. On the arrival of Brigadier-General Hagood he will take position in rear of Major-General Hill as a reserve.

VII. Lieutenant Colonel Starr, commanding the artillery, will report to Major-General Hill.

By order of General Bragg:

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR FIELD ORDERS.] IN THE FIELD, *March 8, 1865.*

Any troops arriving to-night must march promptly to field, reporting at headquarters on Dover road.

By order of General Bragg:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, *March 8, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

Major-General HILL:

Major-General Hoke informs General Bragg that if your forces are pushed down the Neuse road and over to the British road, down which he is driving the enemy, a large force will be captured. General Bragg directs that you make this movement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. S. PARKER,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 8, 1865.

Col. S. D. POOL,
Kinston:

General Bragg directs that you will leave the corps of pontoniers in charge of the bridge train and then return to your post.
I am, colonel, &c.,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, March 8, 1865—5.30 p. m.

General BRAGG,
Kinston:

What shall be done with Yankee prisoners coming from Kinston? Eighth Regiment of Senior Reserves probably be here by 10 to-morrow, but unreliable. No shelter here, and they can escape. Might they be forwarded to Salisbury or Raleigh? Answer immediately.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 8, 1865.

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Goldsborough:

Send men of Stewart's corps immediately upon arrival to take guide at Kinston, and report on field by daylight.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR KINSTON, March 8, 1865.

Surg. C. H. LADD,
Goldsborough:

Prepare for 300 wounded, in addition to your present accommodations.

T. G. RICHARDSON,
Surgeon and Medical Director.

FAYETTEVILLE, March 8, 1865.

Colonel CHILDS:

COLONEL: I have just arrived here from Lieutenant-General Hardee's command. He directed me to say to you that he wished you to throw out scouts on the McFarland, Gilchrist, and Bennettsville roads.

I am, colonel, &c.,

JOHN K. JACKSON,
Brigadier-General.

(Forwarded to Col. Archer Anderson, assistant adjutant-general.)

ANTIOCH CHURCH, March 8, 1865—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS:

COLONEL: I send you Colonel Montgomery's dispatch just received. I will send any other information that he may send me. About 200

mounted men and four pieces of artillery were reported last night to have gone down the Lowry road toward Fayetteville. I understand (only from negroes) on the Lowry road, this information. He said they passed W. J. Brown's house about sunset and were dressed in blue clothes. He did not know positively whether they were the enemy or our men, but whoever they were, they burned the bridge on the Lowry road across Raft Swamp. I sent Lieutenant Roberts and two men to ascertain the truth of this statement, but he could get no farther than the Raft Swamp bridge, and could not find a man or woman on the road except this negro. All the people are terribly alarmed and have taken to the swamps.

Respectfully, &c.,

MATTHEW P. TAYLOR.

Major, &c.

[Inclosure.]

HDQES. DETACHMENT FIFTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
McEachin's Bridge, March 8, 1865.

Major TAYLOR:

MAJOR: The enemy, after burning everything at Laurinburg, yesterday evening withdrew again to Springfield, where they encamped in considerable force. They also withdrew from Laurel Hill, going in the same direction. They told the citizens they would visit them again this morning. From the beating of the drums about Springfield I judge their infantry are encamped at that place. If they move this way from Laurinburg or Laurel Hill I will notify you at once.

Respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. G. M. MONTGOMERY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Detachment.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
March 8, 1865.

Major TAYLOR:

MAJOR: The enemy have driven us from all three of the bridges. At the same time it is raining so hard that the damage to the bridge will be slight. I shall retire at once to Antioch Church.

J. G. M. MONTGOMERY,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

All cavalry that I have seen this morning.

ANTIOCH CHURCH, *March 8, 1865—12.30 p. m.*
Lient. Col. F. L. CHILDS,
Commanding, &c.:

COLONEL: Just received the above. The courier who brought this says Colonel Montgomery is on this side of Drowning Creek, and Colonel Montgomery will be here in about an hour.

MATTHEW P. TAYLOR,
Major, &c.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865—8 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE :

(Via Richmond.)

Following received :*

Colonel Sale, at Goldsborough, reports 1,000 prisoners arrived there and 500 on the way, and that fight would be renewed to-day.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 9, 1865—11 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C. :

Brigadier-General Evans has reported for duty in your department. I have referred him to you. I consider him incompetent to command, and had so reported him to War Department last spring.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 9, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C. :

Stewart's troops passed through here yesterday. Cheatham's are now moving, and all will probably have passed through to-morrow evening. I will follow next day.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 9, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C. :

Governor Brown has ordered his militia from Augusta to Columbus and West Point to meet threatened attack from Middle Tennessee, furloughing them a while. This transfer may jeopardize East Georgia and our lines of communication hence to Augusta, Atlanta, and Macon. I have ordered General Young to remain about Augusta to protect them. A good major-general should be sent there at once to replace General Hill, who is now with his command. I am informed he would not be acceptable again to the people.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. ARMIES,
March 9, 1865.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,

Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh :

GOVERNOR: I received your letter of the 2d instant, and return you my sincere thanks for your zealous efforts in behalf of the army and the cause. I have read with pleasure and attention your proclamation and appeal to the people, as also extracts from your addresses. I trust you will infuse into your fellow-citizens the spirit of resolution and patriotism which inspires your own action. I have now no cavalry to spare for the purpose you mention, and regret that I did not receive

* See *Brace* to Johnston, March 8, 7 p. m., Part I, p. 1078.

the suggestion at an earlier period. I think it a very good one and would have been glad to adopt it. I have sent a force of infantry, under Brigadier-General Johnston (R. D.), to guard the line of the Roanoke, and operate as far as practicable in the adjacent counties to arrest deserters. Another detachment of 500 men, under Colonel McAlister, has been sent to Chatham and Moore Counties, in which the bands of deserters were represented to be very numerous. They will, however, operate in other quarters as occasion may require. They are instructed to take no prisoners among those deserters who resist with arms the civil or military authorities. I hope you will raise as large a force of local troops to co-operate with them as you can, and think that the sternest course is the best with the class I have referred to. The immunity which these lawless organizations afford is a great cause of desertion, and they cannot be too sternly dealt with. I hope you will be able to aid General Johnston, who needs all the re-enforcements you can give him. If he can check the progress of General Sherman the effect would be of the greatest value. I hope the late success of General Bragg near Kinston will revive the spirits of the people and render your labors less arduous. The conduct of the widow lady whom you mentioned deserves the highest commendation. If all our people possessed her spirit our success I should feel to be assured.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

FAYETTEVILLE, March 9, 1865.

His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh :

General Bragg reports that he attacked the enemy four miles from Kinston yesterday; drove them back three miles, taking several hundred prisoners and killing and wounding a large number. Our own loss comparatively small. Colonel Sale, at Kinston, reports this morning 1,000 prisoners arrived and 500 coming. Major-General Cox, [who] was at Wilmington, commanding Federal troops. General Bragg extols Major-Generals Hill and Hoke and their troops.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, March 9, 1865—2.15 a. m.

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fayetteville, N. C. :

This telegram just received from Kinston, 8th, 7 p. m. : *

About 1,000 prisoners arrived here to-night; more on way—said to be 500. Three hundred and fifty men Colbert's command, Loring's division, arrived and left for Kinston 5.45 p. m. yesterday. My unofficial dispatch to you stated all Loring's here. Colbert said it was [ou] trains close behind. So said Smithfield operator also. Am now informed it has not reached Raleigh. Is Stewart's corps ordered here? It is much needed. Fight to be renewed this morning.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

* See Bragg to Johnston, March 8, 7 p. m., ending with "Our troops behaved most handsomely," Part I, p. 1078.

GOLDSBOROUGH, March 9, 1865—6 p. m.

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

(Care of General Johnston, Fayetteville.)

General Bragg's instructions now changed. He telegraphs operations not decided, and to press forward all troops ordered by General Johnston. I have telegraphed accordingly to Raleigh and Smithfield, though they come scantily. Where is Sherman, and whither do his demonstrations tend?

JOHN B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, March 9, 1865—2.15 a. m.

Colonel HARVIE,

Inspector-General, Army of Tennessee, Raleigh, N. C.:

Three hundred and fifty men Colbert's command, Stewart's corps, arrived and went to Kinston 5.45 p. m. yesterday. Is balance that corps ordered here by General Johnston? They are much needed immediately at Kinston to continue the fight of yesterday, which is thus far successful.

JOHN B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, March 9, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Col. E. J. HARVIE,

Raleigh:

General Johnston directs all troops passing Raleigh be immediately sent forward to Kinston. Acknowledge.

ARCHER ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, March 9, 1865.

Col. E. J. HARVIE,

Inspector-General, Army of Tennessee, Raleigh, N. C.:

When as many as 1,000 of Stewart's corps shall have passed General Bragg wants no more at present. The balance may be stopped at Smithfield.

JOHN B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, March 9, 1865—5.45 p. m.

Col. E. J. HARVIE,

Inspector-General, Army of Tennessee:

Instructions from General Bragg changed since my last dispatch. Now hurry forward all troops to Kinston. Operation there not closed.

JOHN B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865—6.30 a. m.*

OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD:

Convey to any officer commanding troops arriving at Smithfield this, General Johnston's, order to proceed immediately to Kinston. Acknowledge.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865.*

OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD:

When about 1,000 have passed this way, including the 350 yesterday, under Colonel Colbert, stop all others at Smithfield. If Loring's division exceeds this number let it all come. Show this to officers commanding.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865—5.45 p. m.*

OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD:

Instructions now changed. Hurry on all troops to Kinston. Show this to Colonel Burr, Captain Brewer, and other officers commanding troops arrived and to arrive. How many troops now at Smithfield? Is any transportation from here needed? Answer immediately.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Memorandum for Lieutenant-General Hardee.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

To prepare a crossing for Lieutenant-General Hampton and send him information. To remain here as long as practicable without compromising the safety of his command, in order to delay the enemy. When he leaves to move by the Raleigh road on the east bank of Cape Fear. If it is not practicable to destroy a portion of the bridge merely to burn it. To keep a few picked scouts to observe the enemy's movements between the Fayetteville railroad and river. His object will be to keep between the enemy and Raleigh, and his movements directed accordingly. To do all he can to delay the enemy's passage of the river in order that our forces may be concentrated as near it as possible. Remove all able-bodied negroes, saddle and draft animals, and means of transportation.

By order of General Johnston:

A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MCNEILL'S HOUSE,
March 9, 1865—11.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE, *Fayetteville:*

GENERAL: The troops of the Army of Tennessee are collecting at Smithfield. The memorandum furnished you to-day respecting your movements was based on the idea of the enemy's moving on

Raleigh, but they may move toward Goldsborough or some other point east of Raleigh. In such an event I am directed by the commanding general to say you should move toward Smithfield in order to secure a junction with the rest of our forces. In general, it is important that you should be as near the enemy's line of march as possible, which will enable us to unite the other troops with yours. In the memorandum the small arms and cartridges at Jonesborough were unintentionally omitted.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MEMORANDUM ORDERS.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Fayetteville, March 9, 1865.

This command will take position early to-morrow morning about three miles from Fayetteville, as follows: McLaws' division covering or occupying the McFarland's Bridge road and all roads on the right of it to Cape Fear River, Taliaferro's division covering or occupying the Gilchrist and McEachin's Bridge road and all roads on the left of it to Cape Fear River. All vehicles not indispensable to the command will be sent to-morrow morning over the river in charge of competent officers and will encamp (the division trains separately) two or three miles on the Raleigh road. Division commanders will no longer allow their trains to be encumbered with buggies, carts, or any description of vehicles not belonging to the public transportation of the army and will impress for public service all animals in or traveling with their respective commands, in the hands of parties not entitled to have horses, and all in excess of the regular allowance in the hands of officers or soldiers entitled to have horses and to draw forage. Lieut. Col. Del. Kemper will take charge of the reserve artillery and proceed with it across Cape Fear River early to-morrow morning, and encamp about two miles on the Raleigh road.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 9, 1865—7 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: Camped last night at Johnsonville. Everything is getting on well. Will stop three or four miles out of Fayetteville to-night, unless you otherwise direct. There are 103 four-horse wagons and 32 two-horse wagons in this train. This includes the wagons belonging to the reserve artillery. Captain Gilchrist says he is "in my rear with eighteen mounted men to protect me;" therefore myself and train are saved, and will certainly make our appearance in Fayetteville.

Respectfully,

SAML. L. BLACK,
Major, &c.

[MARCH 9, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (two dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, pp. 1124, 1125.]

CHARLOTTE, *March 9, 1865.*

(Received 12.40 10th.)

General S. COOPER:

Telegram of 8th instant received. Will proceed immediately to execute its order. There is not a piece of artillery in South Carolina in our possession to enable me to discharge my duty and hold the State. I earnestly pray you will send me, without delay, a battery of light artillery. I will mount as far as possible the reserve forces left in South Carolina for active service. Am without artillery, cavalry arms, or ammunition. Will do what I can.

JAS. CHESNUT, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865—9 a. m.*General B. BRAGG, *Kinston:*

I congratulate you upon the victory of yesterday, which the army and the country will appreciate. Cox's troops are from Wilmington, where he and Terry commanded corps under Schofield.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

MARCH 9, 1865.

Col. J. B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Goldsborough:

Send on no more troops after the 1,000 of Stewart's.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865—11.20 a. m.*General BRAGG, *Kinston:*

I have not communicated to General Johnston your dispatch stopping all Stewart's corps except the 1,000 named. Orders sent to Smithfield to stop them there. Just received dispatch from General Johnston that all passing Raleigh are ordered to you.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 9, 1865.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

Let all the troops ordered here by General Johnston be pressed forward to this point.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865—12 m.*

General BRAGG,

Kinston, N. C.:

Captain Chesnut, commanding squadron Lipscomb's cavalry at Richlands, Onslow County, reported to commanding officer at Duplin's on 8th: "Enemy advancing in force from Wilmington, with infantry,

cavalry, and artillery, as far as the Golden place, between Northeast River and the sound, on Jacksonville road." This road leads toward Kinston. The dispatch was sent by Colonel McKoy to Magnolia to be telegraphed here. No office being there, it was lost. McKoy communicates it to me verbally. It is not known how reliable the report is. A gentleman here from Onslow Court-House yesterday heard nothing of it there.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR KINSTON, March 9, 1865—2.15 p. m.

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Goldsborough :

Should Raleigh be threatened, move by rail to Greensborough or Salisbury, taking the records and baggage from Goldsborough and Raleigh. Take Riall if he continues unwell.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR KINSTON, March 9, 1865—4.30 p. m.

Major CAMERON,
Goldsborough :

Operations here not yet decided. Do not hold your transportation unemployed, but be prepared to call it in at short notice.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

MARCH 9, 1865.

Major CAMERON,
Goldsborough :

Transportation and artillery must not come here.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

MARCH 9, 1865.

Major CAMERON,
Chief Quartermaster, Goldsborough :

See Colonel Sale for estimate of forces you ask Colonel Gordon for.

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, March 9, 1865—8.30 p. m.

Major CAMERON,
Goldsborough :

Hold ready necessary transportation for transfer of troops from Kinston.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR KINSTON, March 9, 1865.

Major-General Hoke will move to the attack immediately, advancing his left flank and gradually taking up the movement to the right, thus making an oblique assault on the enemy. His command will keep well

closed to the right, so as not to leave an interval. Major-General Hill will take up the attack as soon as General Hoke is fairly engaged. The attack must be vigorous and determined, as success must be achieved.

By order of General Bragg:

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 9, 1865—4.20 p. m.

Major-General HILL:

General Bragg has just heard from Major-General Hoke, and he directs me to notify you that at any moment Hoke's guns may be heard.

Respectfully, general,

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, *March 9, 1865—6.15 p. m.*

Major-General HILL:

General Bragg directs me to say that Major-General Hoke will confer with you in regard to the return of Hagood's brigade to his division, which is desired, and the movement proposed for the morning, during which you will retain your present position in the lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 9, 1865.

The officer commanding detachment Stewart's corps will, upon his arrival, leave a guard of fifty men, with their officers, to police the town of Kinston and collect all stragglers.

By order of General Bragg:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865.*

Colonel MALLET,

Commanding Conscripts, Raleigh:

See Special Orders, No. 46, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, and late exchange notice. General Johnston requests that you immediately telegraph to all your officers to forward all soldiers so declared exchanged immediately to this or General Lee's army.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865.*

T. J. SUMNER,

Superintendent North Carolina Railroad, Company's Shops:

It is desired to place all troops coming east over your road as rapidly as possible at Kinston. I ask your assistance to accomplish this result.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

General HAMPTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

(Care of General Hardee.)

Sabers shipped from Greensborough to Raleigh.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MARCH 10, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, reporting engagement at Monroe's Cross-Roads, S. C., see Part I, p. 1045.]

RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—4.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond:

Governor Magrath calls for the Cadets and militia of South Carolina, with General Hardee, to protect the State against threatened raid from East Tennessee. Shall they be sent? Brigadier-General Robertson's command, 1,000 strong, was cut off, and is now in South Carolina.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—10.45 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE:

General Bragg reports that enemy intrenched himself in position to which he was driven on 8th and, therefore, he had not been dislodged; also heavy force moving on his right and rear from Wilmington. He is, therefore, called back. Lieutenant-General Hardee reports Sherman's army seven miles from Fayetteville, and that he will cross the Cape Fear to-night, together with General Hampton. The troops of the Tennessee army are without field transportation.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—10 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C., or wherever he may be:

Sending trains to Goldsborough retards shipment of troops from Chester. Please order trains returned soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—1.15 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Governor Magrath applied for return of his Cadets and militia. General Lee objected to General Garlington's force not having been brought out of the State with Stevenson's command.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, *March 10, 1865.*General J. E. JOHNSTON, or
G. T. BEAUREGARD:

(Care Comdg. Officer Charlotte, to be sent with cipher dispatch.)

Have read General Taylor's cipher. Have about 5,000 men here organized. Trains arriving. Hope to start for Charlotte with trains, &c., in about five days. Delays now occasioned by heavy rains and non-arrival of pontoons.

S. D. LEE,
*Lieutenant-General.*AUGUSTA, *March 10, 1865.*Lieut. Gen. R. TAYLOR, *Meridian:*

Colonel Brent gone. Trains of army now arriving. Troops can march for army east of this point. Are organized and being organized for that purpose. I will start in about five days with trains and command of 5,000. This in reply to yours of 8th to Colonel Brent. Will forward cipher dispatch of 8th. Telegraphic communication perfect between Columbus and Charlotte.

S. D. LEE,
*Lieutenant-General.*RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—5.30 p. m.*Lieutenant-General HARDEE, *Fayetteville:*

Keep your reserve artillery about fifteen miles in your rear, provided it can be subsisted on the country, so as to bring it into action, if necessary. Where is General Hampton?

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.. RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—7.30 p. m.*Lieutenant-General HARDEE, *Fayetteville:*

Do what you can to impede enemy, with Hampton's help. Send dispatches either by Smithfield or Barbee's.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
*General.*CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—1.30 p. m.*Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Please send me copy of my telegram from Columbia, S. C., ordering evacuation of Charleston, dated, I think, 16th February.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

*Memoranda.*HEADQUARTERS,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 10, 1865.

The troops will proceed across the Cape Fear River to-night in the following order: Artillery and wagons immediately; Blanchard's bri-

gade, of McLaws' division, at 8 p. m., and halt three miles on Raleigh road; Goodwyn's brigade, of Taliaferro's division, at 8.30 p. m.; remainder of Taliaferro's division at 9.30; remainder of McLaws' division at 10.30. The infantry will proceed about three miles on the Raleigh road and halt. Lieutenant-General Hampton will cover the march with his cavalry and will cross the river when compelled to retire. He is charged with the destruction of the bridge when his command shall have passed over.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

COLONEL: I embrace the first opportunity which has offered to let you know that I am with General Wheeler's corps (after a long and tedious trip around the flank of Sherman's army), engaged in the execution of my orders. Thus far I have seen but little to condemn and much to commend, both on the march and in action. As the command is constantly moving I have but little opportunity to see the practical application of orders and drill, but expect to be able before I leave to give full and complete information of this command. Sherman is moving rapidly, and will probably occupy Fayetteville to-morrow, as our infantry is evacuating it while I am writing. I think, from present indications, that Sherman designs forming a junction with Schofield at Goldsborough, using New Berne as a base of supplies. I am writing by a camp-fire with my paper on my knee, and as I am completely exhausted, will close. I will write you again when I can announce some definite results.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. E. PORTLOCK, JR.,
Colonel and Assistant Inspector-General.

P. S.—In consequence of the uncertain mail communications, I have taken the liberty of inclosing a letter, which I will thank you to have sent to the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office.

E. E. P., JR.

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—2.10 a. m.*

Governor VANCE, *Raleigh:*

I am under obligation for your offer, but our loss is so small as not to require additional medical officers or supplies

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—9.30 a. m.*

General B. BRAGG, *Kinston:*

Sherman may reach Fayetteville to-day. In your operations consider that all troops must be concentrated in his front, south of Raleigh and Goldsborough Railroad. We are not well informed. Want of pontoons keeps cavalry out of position.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—3.45 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh*:

The enemy is strongly intrenched in the position to which we drove him. Yesterday and to-day we have moved on his flanks, but without gaining any decided advantage. His line is extensive, and prisoners report large re-enforcements. Under these conditions I deem it best, with the information you give, to join you, which I shall proceed to do, unless otherwise directed.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—5 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh*:

My cavalry is retreating before a heavy column of the enemy now in Onslow County, moving from Wilmington on my right and rear. Deserters from Wilmington confirm this report.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—6 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh*:

There is no doubt about the movement of a heavy column from Wilmington in this direction. Will you have any means of delaying Sherman so as to enable me to save supplies, or must the junction be immediate?

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

General B. BRAGG, *Kinston*:

Dispatches 3.45 and 4 p. m. received. Your first move had better be to Goldsborough.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, *March 11 [10 ?], 1865—10.30 p. m.*

General B. BRAGG, *Kinston*:

Lieutenant-General Hardee reports from Fayetteville Federal army within seven miles. Intends to cross river to-night. Cavalry will cross in the morning. Move immediately to Smithfield. What amount of transportation have you? Bring all you can.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—11.15 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh*:

Troops in motion. We have field transportation for 10,000, but it is much scattered, collecting supplies. Will be called in immediately.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Fayetteville and Barbee's:

Orders had issued not to hold waiting transportation necessary elsewhere, and are repeated.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:
(Care General Johnston, Raleigh, N. C.)

Your instructions of yesterday have been obeyed about trains intended to be delayed for a short emergency. Superintendent of North Carolina Railroad was very much mistaken in his telegram reported by you. Last of Stewart's corps passed to Kinston this morning. Skirmishing there last night.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:
(Care of General Johnston, Raleigh, N. C.)

Colonel Roy, assistant adjutant-general, telegraphed yesterday Sherman's advance very near Fayetteville. Scouts' reports and citizens' seem to indicate Twenty-third Corps moved northward from Wilmington on Monday, destination either Kinston or Goldsborough, marching rapidly. If for Kinston, it probably reached there yesterday evening; if Goldsborough, it is near here. Whether we are successful or not at Kinston, I suppose we soon move toward Fayetteville. I respectfully submit that all trains sent hence to Greensborough cannot return on close schedule time without accident or detention, under four days after the issue will probably be decided at Kinston. This suggestion made in General Bragg's absence and on account of the emergency.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.
(Care of General Johnston, Raleigh, N. C.)

Lipscomb's cavalry at Northeast River, headquarters Rocky Point. One squadron, under Captain Chesnut, at Richlands, Onslow County. The movement from Wilmington was on the Sound road, and first reported by Chesnut at Richlands. Following dispatch this moment received from General Bragg:

Send no more troops nor supplies to Kinston. Send all transportation as rapidly as possible.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:
 (Care General Johnston, Raleigh, N. C.)

Following dispatch addressed here to Brigadier-General Baker, from Col. W. F. Martin, commanding at Wilson, this date:

Colonel Wynne, at Franklin, reports enemy 1,200 or 1,500 strong, cavalry, infantry, and artillery, attempting to cross Blackwater. Have small boats with them for the purpose. He asks for re-enforcements. A later dispatch, 5.30 p. m., says they have crossed.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—2.10 a. m.*

Major CAMERON,
Chief Quartermaster, Goldsborough:

The transportation must not be kept unemployed. Let such as needed go with supplies for Army of Northern Virginia.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA,
 No. 20. } *Kinston, March 10, 1865.*

The general congratulates the troops of his command upon the success which has attended their operations in front of Kinston. Their patient endurance of privation and hardship, and their gallantry in action have met his expectations and won his gratitude. Fully able to maintain their position, and finally to beat their foe, more important work calls a large portion of them to a distant field, and necessarily suspends offensive operations in this quarter. To Major-Generals Hill and Hoke and Brigadier-General Baker, exercising separate commands, the general returns his cordial thanks for the able, prompt, and gallant support he has received.

By order of General Bragg:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
 No. 59. } *Kinston, March 10, 1865.*

I. Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, commanding troops from Army of Northern Virginia, will move with them early to-morrow morning by highway to Goldsborough. Such as are unable to march will be immediately sent to the depot for transportation by rail.

II. Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke, with his own division and Brigadier-General Baker's command, will cross the Neuse to-morrow, destroying the communication in his rear. He will forward to Goldsborough, as rapidly as possible, by rail, all disabled men and valuable stores, and move with his command to that point as soon as this object is accomplished. Such supplies as cannot be transported by daylight on 12th instant or issued to the troops must be destroyed, and the command will march, via Goldsborough, to Smithfield.

III. The Sixth North Carolina Cavalry and Captain Chesnut's squadron, Second South Carolina Cavalry, will report to Major-General Hoke.

IV. The different staff departments at the post of Kinston will leave, under Major-General Hoke's orders, by rail.

V. Captain Price, C. S. Navy, commanding C. S. steamer Neuse, is desired to cover Major-General Hoke's movements, and if practicable before sacrificing his vessel, to move down the river by way of diversion, and make the loss of his vessel as costly to the enemy as possible.

VI. Headquarters will be removed to Goldsborough to-morrow.

By order of General Bragg:

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, March 10, 1865.

All of the sick and wounded capable of being transported will be sent by railroad promptly from Kinston to Goldsborough. Put in motion for Kinston all trains, sick and wounded, and supplies not necessary for immediate use. Collect all stragglers and be ready for orders.

By order of General Bragg:

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copies to Generals Hoke, Hill, and Baker, with postscript: The commanding general desires to see you as soon as you can leave your command.)

HEADQUARTERS,
Kinston, March 10, 1865.

Major-General HOKE:

General Bragg desires that you will reunite all of the troops composing Brigadier-General Baker's command.

Very respectfully,

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Kinston, March 10, 1865.

Major HUGHES,

Quartermaster, Hoke's Division :

General Bragg directs that you immediately render all assistance with your wagons to the post quartermaster for the removal of stores and supplies to the railroad depot.

Very respectfully,

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,

Near Kinston, March 10, 1865—6.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Commanding Second District:

General Bragg directs that you give to staff officers necessary instructions for disposition for burning all cotton about Kinston and Goldsborough which cannot be taken away.

Very respectfully, &c.,

F. S. PARKER,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865—12.25 a. m.*

General BRAGG,
Kinston, N. C. :

This dispatch just received from Hardee's adjutant-general, dated Fayetteville, 9th, 10 p. m.:

Colonel SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General :

General Johnston left this evening for Raleigh. A telegram would reach him to-morrow morning at Barbee's; evening at Raleigh. Indications are, Sherman is moving upon Fayetteville. His advance very near here.

JOHN B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865—4.45 a. m.*

General BRAGG,
Kinston, N. C. :

Troop train with General Walthall and 354 men leaving now for Kinston. Many of them lack cartridge-boxes and some lack arms. Have just started a train to Smithfield for 100 more. Cheatham ought to be at Raleigh, but not yet heard from.

JOHN B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—9.35 a. m.*

Colonel SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Goldsborough :

The enemy's strength and natural advantages of position prevented us from dislodging him yesterday.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865—1 p. m.*

General BRAGG, *Kinston:*

More confirmation of Chesnut's reports. Last night a well-known, credible gentleman came to Warsaw from Lake Catherine, and this morning sent information here by messenger that a corps of infantry, three regiments of cavalry, with artillery, staid at Lake Catherine Wednesday night, having staid Tuesday night at Stump Sound, alias Golden Place. They had marched rapidly. Lake Catherine is about

thirty miles from Kinston and same from Warsaw. They are therefore either closely approaching Goldsborough direct, or have joined those in your front by this. I fear the former. Chesnut was at Richlands, above Lake Catherine.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Goldsborough, March 10, 1865.

General BRAGG, *Kinston.*

DEAR SIR: Yankee deserters, sent here this morning by Colonel Lipscomb, who seem on cross-examination to speak truthfully, say that Twenty-third Corps left Wilmington Monday, going northward, they heard to Goldsborough. They left Wilmington on the same road. They did not observe artillery, but cavalry (said to be 800 or 900) had recently landed and preceded the infantry on that road. The cavalry marched as soon as arrived at Wilmington. It was currently stated in Wilmington that 10,000 more cavalry from Virginia were coming. The deserters left Wilmington on Monday also. They had been landed from Boston as recruits on Friday previous, and did not know the names or strength of organizations, nor much about military movements. Terry remained in Wilmington. Schofield was said to command the marching column. They did not know him. All cavalry landing leave immediately on Sound road. This tallies precisely, as far as it goes, with Captain Chesnut's report, who commands squadron of cavalry posted near Richlands, in upper part of Onslow County. From Wilmington to Golden Place (alias Stump Sound) is twenty-five miles, about; thence to Lake Catherine about twenty-seven; thence to Kinston on north or Warsaw on railroad, about same. A Mr. Lemuel Hodges, of Lake Catherine, came thence last night to Warsaw, whence he sent a Mr. Frederick by train this morning with information that a corps of infantry, with three regiments cavalry, and artillery, staid Tuesday night at Golden Place and Wednesday night at Lake Catherine. Hodges fled and came to Warsaw with the information last night (Thursday), as I have said. They were marching rapidly. If they are re-enforcements for the New Berne force they are by this time in your front, I guess, or soon will be. But they may be destined for Goldsborough, which I am led to fear from the fact that that would hurt us most. By taking the somewhat circuitous route of Sound road, they flank Lipscomb and put Holly Shelter Swamp between them and him and cover their movement from him. From Lake Catherine to Goldsborough, it appears on map to be about fifty miles. My only hope against this hypothesis is that Captain Chesnut's squadron is near Richlands on the route. He ought to cover both Goldsborough and Kinston. If Goldsborough is the point they are near here now.

In great haste, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—9.35 a. m.*

Colonel LIPSCOMB, *Duplin's:*

If you will not require the battery artillery it had best be sent back to Goldsborough.

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Goldsborough, March 10, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Second South Carolina Cavalry:

Your dispatch per Private Hutchinson is received, with the 3 Yankee deserters, 2 prisoners, and 1 runaway negro, who have been turned over to provost-marshal. The report of Captain Chesnut of 8th instant was forwarded to General Bragg. It seems to be confirmed by private reports since received to date, as well as by the deserters you sent. The private information is to effect that one corps of infantry, three regiments of cavalry, with artillery, camped Tuesday night at Goldon Place and Wednesday night at Lake Catherine. They are evidently destined to re-enforce the enemy in front of Kinston (confronted by our forces), or are moving directly upon Goldsborough. Each place is equally distant from Lake Catherine, or nearly so. If the former, they have already joined the enemy's force there; if the latter, they are near here now. I would fear the latter but for the fact that by Captain Chesnut's report he seems to be at Richlands, directly in their track by either place, and he has not informed us here further of them. Please advise us where your detachments are posted, so that it may be known what points are under observation. If Goldsborough is the destination, the movement by the Sound road is intended to cover the expedition from yourself by putting Holly Shelter Swamp between you and them. You will still obey the direction of the commanding general, contained in my written dispatch to you of 7th instant, to send orders by courier to officer commanding the two companies of infantry and one of artillery posted up Cape Fear River. General Johnston has left Fayetteville for Raleigh, but General Hardee is there, and they will report to him for the time being. You ask for supplies to be sent to you by rail twice or thrice a week. You do not say whether you want forage for horses, or subsistence for your men, nor do you give the number of men or horses to be supplied. Inform me by telegraph or otherwise. Major Cameron, chief quartermaster, Department of North Carolina, says he has given the necessary orders for your forage to be sent down as you requested, and a proper extract from your letter has been referred to Major Reid, chief commissary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR KINSTON, March 10, 1865.

Colonel LIPSCOMB, *Teachey's:*

Move with your command rapidly to Raleigh by nearest practicable highway road.

FRANK PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Colonel Burr, Magnolia.)

KINSTON, March 10, 1865—9.35 a. m.

Colonel BURR, *Magnolia:*

Keep us advised of the direction of enemy's advance, and communicate his movements to Lipscomb.

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 10, 1865.

Colonel BURR, *Magnolia*:

Dispatches received. Ellis' battery must accompany your march. Captain Crenshaw must proceed by railroad with his stores to Goldsborough.

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, March 10, 1865.

Colonel WHITFORD, *President Railroad*:

COLONEL: General Bragg desires that you will hold available at Kinston all the means of transportation on your railroad.

Very respectfully,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Have telegraphed General Johnston to order trains to Salisbury soon as practicable. I approve of your issue to destitute troops.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—10 a. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Have telegraphed for cars to be returned as soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Endeavor to secure trains from the Western North Carolina extension and Raleigh and Gaston Railroad.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

There are still 455 horses, 54 wagons, and about 2,000 men to ship from Chester. You want about 55 cars.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MARCH 11, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations in North Carolina, &c., see Part I, p. 1045.]

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865.*HON. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

I have directed Lieutenant-General Holmes to call out the Reserves and detailed men subject to his orders, and ask your approval.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

[MARCH 11, 1865. ?]

General JOHNSTON:

I fear I cannot hold my position if road to Raleigh is interrupted. Should you be forced back in this direction both armies would certainly starve. You must judge what the probabilities will be of arresting Sherman by battle. If there is a reasonable probability I would recommend it. A bold and unexpected attack might relieve us.

R. E. LEE,
*General.*RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865.*General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee, then at Fayetteville, informed me by telegraph last night that General Sherman's army was within seven miles of the place; that he would cross the river during the night, and Lieutenant-General Hampton this morning. The closing of the telegraph office has indicated the evacuation of the place. General Bragg reported at the same time that he had not dislodged the enemy from the position which he took after the action of the 8th, the strength of the intrenched position and re-enforcements to the enemy making it impracticable. A strong body of troops was also marching by the coast road to join Cox's command. He is, therefore, falling back, instructed to halt at Goldsborough. It seems to me probable that General Sherman intends to unite the troops near Kinston with his own army. If he moves toward Goldsborough for this object, I hope to be able to concentrate our forces there to attack Cox. By the slow working of the railroad the Tennessee troops are not all up yet, although the movement commenced eight days ago.

Should the Federal army move upon Raleigh from Fayetteville, the course of the Cape Fear might conceal his movements to within thirty miles of the place, and prevent my meeting it near the river, where its columns are most likely to be separated.

Generals Holmes and Gatlin tell me that the country between Raleigh and Clarksville will sustain no considerable body of troops, and that to reach the Roanoke it would be necessary to direct our march at least as low on the river as Gaston. The chief commissary, however, reports the country along most of the route to Clarksville abundant. I think that my course ought to depend much upon your situation. In a battle with Sherman on equal ground the chances would be decidedly against us. Hardee's troops have seen little real service, and have among the superior officers few who have shown themselves competent to their grades. Their present organization is new—made when Charleston was evacuated. The Army of Tennessee is represented to be in great need of reorganization. Their best general officers were lost at Franklin and Nashville. Lieutenant General Hardee's force at Cheraw was, including 1,000 South Carolina reserves and militia, about

10,000. There have been many deserters since. General Bragg estimated his at about 7,000. His loss was about 500 in the recent engagement. General Beauregard estimated the effective total of the Army of Tennessee at 6,700. Our cavalry is better and more numerous than that of the enemy, and is under a much abler commander. The Federal army is supposed by our officers to amount to about 45,000. I have no other means of estimating its strength. Under such circumstances I will not give battle to Sherman's united army, unless your situation may require such a course; but will if I can find it divided. Of this please advise me. I need not say that your opinions will have a control equal to that of your official authority. Should Sherman and Cox unite, their march into Virginia cannot be prevented by me. In that event, if I understand your letter of February 23, you will meet us at the southern edge of Virginia to give battle. Would it be practicable, instead, to hold one of the inner lines of Richmond with one part of your army, and meet Sherman with the other, returning to Richmond after fighting? I should be glad to know as much as you think it prudent to communicate of the effect upon your position of the interruption by the Federal army of the railroad by Raleigh. If the possession of the road by Raleigh is necessary for the subsistence of your army, unless it is improper to ask, I should be glad to be informed. I beg you to inform me of everything in your affairs which is connected with my operations, such, at least, as may be dependent on them, that I may do my utmost to aid you. I shall also be grateful for any instructions you may have time to give me.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following as the result of examination of route from Jonesborough, on Western Coal Fields Railroad, to Page's Depot, on North Carolina Railroad, by way of Aven's Ferry. The distance is thirty-five miles, ridge road, generally level, and for the most part sandy soil; there are, however, several steep clay hills, which have been rendered almost impassable by the continued rains. The low grounds as you approach the river from Jonesborough are miry, and the road there in bad condition. It should be causewayed. With the exception of the Cape Fear, there is but one water-course of any importance—White Oak Creek, four miles east of the river, which is well bridged. At ordinary seasons this road is a very good one. From Jonesborough to Morrisville, on North Carolina Railroad, by way of Haywood, is as near a route. There is a bridge over Deep River, but there is none over Haw; it has been recently carried off by freshet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT STRANGE,
Aide-de-Camp.

RICHMOND, VA., *March 11, 1865.*

General JOS. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to advise you that I have failed in obtaining funds to pay the troops of your command. It is proper that I

should at the same time relieve both the War and Treasury Departments of any and all neglect in the matter. With this view I take the liberty of suggesting that a general order be published to your army, setting forth the embarrassment of the Treasury Department and the causes of the delay in the payment of their dues. I firmly believe that all dissatisfaction will cease when these reasons are explained to the army. The embarrassment of the Treasury is owing to the exhaustion of Treasury notes authorized to be issued by law. The present Congress has very properly prohibited any further issue, but has provided by a tax bill for the disbursements of the Government in the future. This tax bill goes into operation immediately, and the Secretary of the Treasury confidently believes that in six weeks he will be amply provided with means to pay the army, &c.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. A. DESLONDE,
Major, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 No. 58. } *Richmond, Va., March 11, 1865.*
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XVII. Paragraph XXIV, Special Orders, No. 43, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, is hereby revoked, and Brig. Gen. F. A. Shoup, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty under General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding, &c., and will report accordingly.

* * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War :

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—12 m.*
 General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C. :*

Please keep me informed of enemy's movements in Bragg's and Hardee's fronts. Troops at Salisbury are still awaiting transportation.
G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865.*
 General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Charlotte :*

Federal army is in Fayetteville this morning. Hardee and Hampton near on this side. General Bragg's troops are returning to Goldsborough from Kinston, where the force opposed to his own was heavily re-enforced from Wilmington. That force was beaten by General Bragg with Hill's and Hoke's troops on the 8th.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—6.45 p. m.*
 General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C. :*

There are 120 car-loads of troops, artillery, and wagons at Salisbury. Must they continue to await transportation there or march to Greensborough? There are about sixty-five loads still at Chester awaiting movement from Salisbury.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
Raleigh, March 11, 1865—12 m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Fayetteville:

GENERAL: General Bragg reports a heavy force from Wilmington joining the troops he lately engaged. It may be Sherman's design to unite with that force and for that object to move toward Goldsborough instead of Raleigh. It is very important, therefore, that your movements conform to Sherman's when he leaves Fayetteville. If he goes to Raleigh he may cross the river twenty or thirty miles above Fayetteville. To discover any such movement we should have scouts on the west side of the river, parties small enough to escape by the ferries. If this has not been provided for desire Lieutenant-General Hampton to take the necessary steps. It is important that you keep as near the river as you can without compromising yourself until Sherman's course is developed. We are making preparations to send you from this point a few days' rations. We can supply you as long as it will be necessary, so it will not at present be necessary for you to come to the railroad for subsistence. Sherman will either move toward Raleigh or Goldsborough to unite with Cox. If he takes the first course, General Bragg's troops will be brought to yours; if the second, yours to his. We must endeavor to be prepared for either.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—12 m.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

It is difficult to communicate with Robertson. I hope he will not follow the route you indicate. He should keep closer to enemy's rear. Butler and Wheeler must be between you and enemy. Call on Hampton to keep you advised of latter's movements.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Report of a scouting party of seven men.

MARCH 11, 1865.

We left our command at Branchville, S. C., and proceeded in the direction of Orangeburg Court-House. Here the enemy were stationed, but soon moved off in the way of Columbia, their right column of the Seventeenth Corps moving on the old State road; the Fifteenth, on the Orangeburg road to Columbia; the Fourteenth, on the Bull Swamp road, and the Twentieth, on the road from Barnwell Court-House to Columbia, and Kilpatrick's cavalry to the left of that. We followed the right of the army near to Columbia, then shifted to the left, crossed the Saluda River, got in the forks of Saluda and Broad Rivers, and crossed the Broad at Lyle's Ford and followed the rear left flank of their army to Black Stocks Station, on the Charlotte and Columbia Railroad; from there to Rocky Mount Ferry, on the Catawba River; from there to Lancaster Court-House and to Chesterfield Court-House, and on to Haile's Ferry on the Pedee River, where they crossed, and then to Rockingham, and on to Fayetteville, where we joined our division.

The enemy's right remained of the same troops as from Orangeburg Court-House to Columbia and their entire line of march of the same. The result of scout, 1 man (a gallant fellow) killed on our side and 68 killed for the Federals, and 4 turned over to Wheeler's cavalry.

T. M. PAYSINGER,
Sergeant of Party.

[MARCH 11, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1125.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, March 11, 1865—9.35 a. m.

Col. J. WARREN GRIGSBY, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: Major-General Wheeler desires you to cross the river at Averasborough, or some point above that. The enemy will occupy Fayetteville in an hour. You will, after crossing the river, make exertions to join the command with the train, as far as you can do so without risking the train. No point can now be designated.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

M. G. HUDSON,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 11, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Goldsborough, N. C.:*

GENERAL: The demand for quartermaster and commissary supplies here is very urgent. If military reasons do not make it impossible let the trains go from Goldsborough loaded. If there be doubts of their prompt return I suggest that officers be sent with them. A law just passed gives the Government ample power over the roads, their officers, and their employés.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865.*

Hon. JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

The trains were used in emergency in moving the sick and wounded and supplies from Kinston. That accomplished, they are now transporting all supplies hence without distinction between armies.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

(Same to General Lee.)

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

We have nearly 200,000 rations, and there is no storage at Smithfield. I will stop first supplies there, and continue, unless otherwise directed.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865—10.15 a. m.*

General BRAGG, *Goldsborough:*

Better remain at Goldsborough till we see Sherman's course from Fayetteville.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—11 a. m.*

General BRAGG, *Kinston:*

Following dispatch just received from Raleigh, 11th:

Your commissary reports large amount commissary stores at Goldsborough. It is important to save them. I am sure you will have time to do so. They are of great importance to us, so please have them brought away.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

I have directed Cameron to obey. If you disapprove please telegraph.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865—12 m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Goldsborough:*

Your dispatch of 11.30 a. m. received. Such supplies as you will not need at Goldsborough had better be sent to Smithfield. You have been requested to halt at Goldsborough until Sherman's course is determined.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—12.20 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

Your three telegrams to-day received. Will remain here as directed. Will send trains loaded with supplies to Raleigh. While there you can dispose of the trains as you find necessary. I am informed troops are en route this way from Raleigh. Should not all such be ordered to stop at Smithfield? I will stop there those now coming till your wish is known.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—1.05 a. m.*

General BRAGG, *Kinston:*

Are there any orders to telegraph to Lipscomb's command at Rocky Point? Shall I break up post and telegraph offices south of this. I do not comprehend the full import of your telegram of 11.45 p. m. to Major Cameron. I only conjecture the danger alluded to. Please reply immediately.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—12.40 p. m.*

OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD:

Troops now on way from Raleigh will stop at Smithfield. Send their trains on here. Show this to commanding officers.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865.*

OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD:

Colonel Burr's command of home guards, Ellis' battery, and Lipscomb's cavalry regiment, ordered to Raleigh, will be stopped at Smithfield. Show this to the commanding officers and telegraph here their arrival at Smithfield.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 11, 1865—12 m.

Colonel FREMONT,
Magnolia:

Your road is no longer safe south of the Neuse.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 11, 1865.

I. The general commanding directs that all public stores and the like will be forwarded to Raleigh as rapidly as possible, retaining 20,000 rations of subsistence here, and as much at Smithfield.

II. Medicines, medical stores proper, and surgical instruments, and ammunition, arms, and subsistence, will have preference of transportation in the order here mentioned. Passenger trains which cannot be used for freight will be devoted exclusively to the sick and wounded while needed for that purpose.

III. The entire energies of the different departments will be bestowed upon these objects. Officers will personally superintend the duties. The whole laboring force of the engineer and quartermaster's departments will be employed in the work.

IV. Cotton and other stores which cannot be removed must be so placed that they can be readily destroyed.

V. One officer of the inspector's department from these headquarters will remain on duty at the depot to overlook these operations, and keep the commanding general advised of any neglect or unnecessary delay.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Kinston, March 11, 1865.

Major-General HOKE:

GENERAL: See particularly to the telegraph operators, that they do not remain in Kinston. All of the papers in the telegraph office must be destroyed. As soon as all of the supplies and wounded are off General Bragg desires that you use the balance of transportation for removal of troops, commencing with Brigadier-General Baker's command, which will go directly through to Smithfield.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 11, 1865—12 m.

General HOKE,

Kinston :

Troops must all march. Hold Kinston as long as it can be done with safety to your rear guard, and delay the enemy on his route here as far as consistent with the safety of your command.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—5 p. m.*

General HOKE:

You have misconstrued my orders. Your main force was to move on, but the rear guard to hold the enemy in check at Kinston as long as consistent with safety. If not too late, this must now be done. It is all important.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

MARCH 11, 1865.

General HOKE:

Your dispatch received. It is important to delay the enemy's movement on this place, but your main body should come on as soon as the road is clear.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—6.05 p. m.*

General HOKE,

Kinston :

The cavalry will not answer. It seems to me one brigade would do, but if necessary, leave the two.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C. :

Inspect field transportation at post Salisbury. Leave there what is absolutely necessary and order rest sent to Capt. J. M. Goodman, assistant quartermaster, at Chester, under Wagon-master Hauser.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—8.20 p. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C. :

Can you send myself, two aides, and five horses through to Raleigh to-morrow, not by special trains? If so, when must I leave here? I wish to be delayed little as possible on the way.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—10 p. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

I will leave here Monday morning.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865.*

Capt. J. M. GOODMAN,

Assistant Quartermaster, Chester, S. C.:

When will the last of the wagons and artillery leave Chester?

Answer quick.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *March 12, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

(Via Richmond.)

Is it so important to prevent the interruption of the road by Raleigh by which you are supplied as to make it proper to give battle with the chance of winning against us? I would not fight Sherman's united army unless your situation makes it necessary.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 12, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE, *Petersburg, Va.:*

All troops have left Chester. I will leave here to-morrow morning to join General Johnston at or about Raleigh.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 12, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

All troops have left Chester. I will leave here to-morrow morning to join you.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 12, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

In view of difficulty to procure cars, General Beauregard will leave here to-morrow at 9 a. m. with only two aides, two couriers, and seven horses.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 12, 1865.*

Surg. P. E. HINES,

Medical Director, Raleigh, N. C.:

Dispatch received. Orders already given to move patients and stores from Wilson as soon as more urgent matters permit.

JOHN B. SALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 12, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE,
Kinston, N. C.:

If Chesnut's squadron South Carolina cavalry is near you order it here immediately and to report on arrival.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 12, 1865.

Captain PARIS,
Commanding Light Artillery Battalion:

CAPTAIN: The general commanding directs you will immediately send a battery of your command to the county bridge near Goldsborough, and have them placed in position to defend the bridge against expected raid from the other side.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 12, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Second South Carolina Cavalry:

The general commanding directs that you will take position on South River at and near the point where it is crossed by the highway leading from Goldsborough to Fayetteville. You will put yourself in communication with Lieutenant-General Hampton, who is in that vicinity. You will appropriately dispose your command so as to discover the first approach of the enemy from the direction of Fayetteville, and report to these headquarters by courier daily. You will report oftener when there shall be any special information to communicate. Should the enemy appear you will fall back before him toward Smithfield or Goldsborough, as the case may be, so as ultimately to join the main body of the forces of this command.

Respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Captain Chesnut, with his squadron, will be directed to rejoin you as soon as he can be found.

J. B. S.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 12, 1865.*

OPERATOR AT MOSELEY HALL:

Inform me when the rear guard, consisting of all infantry at Kinston, passes on the march this way, and promptly send forward all orders by courier. Keep your office open till ordered from here to close.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 12, 1865.

General D. H. HILL,
Commanding Corps :

Your note of to-day received. The general commanding entirely approves your suggestion concerning the Raleigh papers. On his arrival here from Wilmington he adopted toward them the course intimated, though a renewal of the restriction is probably necessary. This morning a squadron of cavalry was ordered here for the picket duty you suggest. They are expected to-morrow. You correctly apprehend the kind of field return called for, viz, effective total, total present, and aggregate.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NORTH CAROLINA RESERVES,
Raleigh, March 12, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, C. S. Army :

GENERAL: By orders of General Johnston, I have ordered all the Reserves and detailed men in this State to be assembled at convenient points on the railroads, with a view to call them into immediate service in the field. The reasons for this order have doubtless been given to you by General Johnston. In my judgment they are paramount. The failure to destroy the column advancing on Kinston and the abandonment of that important position makes it very doubtful whether a junction of that army with Sherman's can be prevented, and hence every musket that can be brought to bear will be required. The evils to be apprehended are the consequences that may result from withdrawing the Reserves from the apprehension of deserters, a duty to which they have recently been assigned, and which is now being prosecuted with some success. This, together with the stoppage of all public and private works on which detailed men are employed, is, in my judgment, more than counterbalanced by the imperious necessity of increasing General Johnston's force. The three regiments of Reserves lately stationed at Salisbury as a prison guard were reduced by desertions and other causes to one-quarter their proper strength, and I have some fear that the feeling of disaffection among the people will prevent their rallying in time to be of service, though I am assured by their colonels that such will be the case. The apparent certainty that this capital is the point at which the enemy's united armies will strike has induced me, by the advice of General Johnston, to order the camp of instruction and conscript office to be removed to Greensborough. Every preparation for this will be immediately made, but the movement will not commence until the intentions of the enemy are certain. I shall remain here, and if it be possible to assemble the desultory troops I have called out, will take the immediate command of them. If there be any objection to what I have done, or intend doing, I respectfully ask that you will instruct me by telegraph, as there will be ample time to restore the original status of things before any injury is done.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

TH. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
March 15, 1865.

Respectfully referred to General R. E. Lee.
By command of the Secretary of War:

H. L. CLAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
March 18, 1865.

Respectfully returned to the honorable Secretary of War.
The action of Lieutenant-General Holmes is approved by General R. E. Lee.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS NORTH CAROLINA RESERVES,
Raleigh, March 2, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: All the Reserves in North Carolina have long been in active service under the different commanders, and I have no men to order, as required by Orders, No. 8, just received. I have written to General Bragg for a regiment of Senior Reserves, and I respectfully ask you to order the brigade now at Salisbury to be returned to me. The Federal prisoners there, I presume, will soon be forwarded for exchange.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

TH. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, March 12, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: For the information of the commanding general I respectfully report as follows: The effective force stationed in this military district consists of the Third Regiment Georgia Reserves, 375; Hannon's brigade cavalry, 500; Twenty-ninth Battalion Georgia Cavalry, 300; Fourth Regiment Georgia Cavalry, 200. The regiment of Georgia Reserves is now stationed three miles east of Augusta. Hannon's Brigade, left here by General Young, I have ordered to guard the approaches to this city from Savannah and Pocotaligo and to operate vigorously against any foraging or other parties the enemy may send out, and to keep them confined as far as practicable to such points as they hold on the coast. The same instructions have been given to the Twenty-ninth Georgia Battalion and Fourth Georgia Regiment, which are in Liberty and McIntosh Counties. So far as I have been able to learn, the enemy have no considerable force either at Charleston, Savannah, or any of the intermediate points. But the negroes everywhere within their reach have become much demoralized, and a large number have gone to the enemy. I have instructed the cavalry to prevent this as far as

practicable. I have caused General Lee's amnesty order and General Johnston's assuming command to be printed and distributed extensively in parts of this district which are not reached by the newspapers. These orders are producing a happy effect. I have been urging forward the work on the line of telegraph from Augusta to Columbia and hope to have it ready for use by the 20th instant. The heavy rains have retarded the work of repairing the Georgia Railroad. The engineer in charge expects to have it open to Atlanta by the 25th of April. Herewith I send copy of a proposal to procure necessities by exchanging cotton and tobacco at Savannah. The parties making the proposal are reliable men. Without the sanction of the commanding general I have refused to authorize any trade with Savannah. I would be glad to know his wishes on this subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. D. FRY,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Raleigh, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to General J. E. Johnston for his information and action.

Brigadier-General Fry's disposition of his forces and his instructions appear judicious. The matter of contracts for army supplies meets with my cordial approval, but I apprehend that no action can be taken without the direct approval of the War Department, and great caution should be used in selecting the parties to be contracted with; otherwise any such arrangement might lead to a great deal of abuse and trouble.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *March 13, 1865.*

General ROBERT E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va. :

The Secretary of War has just informed me that General Johnston has directed the removal of supplies from Raleigh as necessary for their safety. If this indicates a purpose to retire behind the railroad line from Goldsborough to Raleigh, and thence to Greensborough, the region of supplies will be lost, and we cannot maintain our position in Virginia and North Carolina. I hope you will be able, by specific instructions, to avert so great a calamity.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 13, 1865—8 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh, N. C. :

Lieutenant-General Lee reports that he will leave Augusta to-day with 3,000 men and pontoon train, if it arrive in time. He says about 4,000 men will probably arrive shortly at Augusta with wagon train. I leave this morning.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Charlotte:*

Following received, dated March 12, 8 p. m.:

Enemy crossed Cape Fear at Cedar Creek, Fayetteville, and Elliott's Ferry, seven miles above. I move up to cover all ferries above. Enemy's purpose not developed.

W. J. HARDEE.

If these crossings are in force a movement eastward is indicated. Hope to see you soon.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

SALISBURY, N. C., *March 13, 1865.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

Am here on my way to join you. Will leave here in a few minutes.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865—7.45 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

(Via Barbee's.)

If enemy has crossed in force Cedar Creek, seems to indicate movement eastwardly. Have you not parties west of river above? If not, scouts might be sent by ferries you hold.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

MACON, GA., *March 13, 1865.*

Maj. F. MOLLOY,

Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Montgomery, Ala.:

General Beauregard directs that I, and all his staff wagons and appurtenances, join him at Charlotte, N. C. Brent left for the field last Wednesday. I will leave next Friday.

J. B. EUSTIS,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Maj. Gen. M. L. Smith, Mobile.)

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865—5.15 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General STEWART, *Smithfield:*

Remain at Smithfield, and stop there all troops arriving from West. Acknowledge.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,

Commanding Lee's Corps:

The general commanding directs that you will put your command in motion at once and proceed to-night six or eight miles on the road to Smithfield. Further orders will be sent you there.

I am, general, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 13, 1865—6.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Lee's Corps:

The general commanding directs that you will continue your march, without unnecessary delay, to-morrow morning, to Smithfield. Upon reaching there report your arrival to General J. E. Johnston, at Raleigh, by telegraph.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

*Abstract from return of the division commanded by Maj. Gen. Henry D. Clayton for
March 13, 1865.*

Command	Present for duty.		Effective total.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.			
Division staff.....	4			4	8
Stovall's brigade.....	49	425	402	583	2,578
Holtzclaw's brigade <i>a</i>					
Gibson's brigade <i>b</i>					
Jackson's brigade <i>c</i>	7	116	103	164	3,017
Total division.....	60	541	505	751	5,603

a Sent to Mobile by order General Beauregard.

b Transferred to Bate's division by order General Hood.

c Transferred from Bate's division, in exchange for Gibson's brigade, by order General Hood.

H. D. CLAYTON,
Major-General.

*Abstract from return of the division commanded by Brig. Gen. William B. Taliaferro
U. S. Army, for March 13, 1865.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Total present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.			
Staff.....	7			8	8
Elliott's brigade.....	86	1,460	1,461	1,855	3,137
Rhett's brigade.....	86	1,048	1,051	1,280	1,795
Total infantry.....	172	2,508	2,512	3,135	4,932
Rhett's battalion light artillery.....	12	288	288	341	536
Grand total.....	191	2,796	2,800	3,484	5,476

FAYETTEVILLE AND RALEIGH ROAD,
Near McKeethon's, March 13, 1865—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Commanding, &c. :

GENERAL: A wagon load of ordnance is just passing back to General Wheeler. No other memorandum of ordnance needed has been received by me. If you will send an officer to fit up the howitzer which is with my headquarters train I will furnish ammunition. I have left a brigade of infantry at the intersection of the McKeethon Bridge road with this and directed that it should sustain the cavalry in case it should be forced back to that point. I hope you have cavalry on the other roads watching the enemy. I think the movement on this road is intended merely, as you suppose, to get forage. One of my scouting parties on the other side of the river last night captured 5 of the enemy, 13 negroes, 9 horses, and 3 carts of bacon. The enemy are foraging up to Little River.

Respectfully, yours,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
March 13, 1865—5.45 p. m.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 2.25 p. m. just received. It is desirable to check the enemy as much as possible, so as to allow our infantry to get off. If only cavalry presses you you can easily stop them or keep Generals Johnston and Hardee informed of all movements by telegraph. It will be necessary to hold the point where this road and the one you are on come together, so that Law can get by. He is ten miles from Raleigh, with pickets well to his front.

Yours, respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

It is necessary to keep some force on the railroad to cover that and the dirt road up to Brassfield Depot. A brigade would be sufficient for this and it could rejoin you when Law reaches the railroad.

[MARCH 13, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (three dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, pp. 1125, 1126.]

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

Your dispatch received. My troops are all here and ready, except rear guard at Kinston. The enemy had not appeared there last night.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Goldsborough:*

How long will it take you to reach Smithfield, and how much can the railroad help you in time?

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865—4.30 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh :

My main force can be there on the 15th; all on the 16th, if we move immediately, which I suggest. No railroad transportation is available, nor could it advance me.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865—5.15 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Goldsborough :

Transfer your command, including Tennessee troops, to Smithfield with all promptness, using railroad as far as may be advantageous. Keep your cavalry in observation as long as possible. Acknowledge receipt of this.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865—5.45 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Goldsborough :

Your dispatch 4.30 p. m. received. Move as early as possible in the morning. Acknowledge.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865—6.15 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh, N. C. :

Your two telegrams of this afternoon are received.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865.*

OPERATOR AT MOSELEY HALL:

Remain until the cavalry at Kinston are ordered to fall back. Then accompany them with your instruments and materials. While remaining, communicate information to Colonel Pool, Goldsborough, and General Bragg, Smithfield. If Chesnut's squadron is near tell them to come on.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 13, 1865.

The several commands will immediately prepare and keep on hand cooked rations for two days, and be held ready in every respect to march at a moment's notice. Absent or detached commands will as promptly as practicable assemble at Goldsborough, encamp, and await orders. That part of Major-General Hoke's division (including Colonel Whitford's command) left at Kinston as rear guard will immediately

march for this place on the dirt road nearest the railroad, so that they may be taken up on trains if necessary and practicable. The cavalry there will remain behind till further orders, to cover the movement and report and obstruct the movements of the enemy. Chiefs of staff departments will see to the proper disposition of the affairs of their several departments, and that no delay or loss shall ensue.

By order of General Bragg:

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865—11.45 a. m.*

Colonel ZACHRY,

Commanding Colquitt's Brigade, Kinston, N. C.:

Leave the cavalry to watch and obstruct the enemy and to report his movements. With the infantry of the rear guard you will march here without delay on the dirt road leading along the railroad, so as to be taken up by trains, if practicable to send any.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865.*

Colonel ZACHRY, *Kinston:*

(Care of Captain Cooper, assistant adjutant-general.)

Your dispatch to General Hoke opened by me. Colonel Sale is my assistant adjutant-general. March immediately as directed, leaving the cavalry until further orders. Telegraph office at Moseley Hall to be kept open till ordered closed from me. Courier to be kept there to communicate with Kinston. Burn all bridges as you pass this way. No train can be sent. Time is important.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, March 13, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Commanding Department, &c.:

GENERAL: I send with this two reports* made by Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry, of recent operations of his command against the enemy. Whilst I commanded the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, [I] frequently had occasion to bring to the notice of the Government the gallant and valuable services rendered by Captain Dickison, and recommended his promotion. I am glad to have this opportunity of again mentioning his services, and to renew my recommendation that he be promoted. I think he has fairly won his promotion, and that his advancement will promote the interest of the service in this State. I therefore recommend that he be given the rank, at least temporarily, of colonel. The enemy has been quite active in this State recently, and if they succeed in getting possession of Baldwin, or so damaging the Central, or Georgia and Pensacola Rail-

* For report of action at Braddock's Farm, Fla., see Part I, p. 1135, and for report of action at Station Number Four, Fla., see Vol. XLIX, Part I.

road as to prevent the passage of cars for a considerable length of time, it will, in a measure, cut off South Florida from the rest of the Confederacy, and in that event it will be necessary to have an active, intelligent, and energetic officer to command in South Florida. I know of no one, certainly no one in my command, at all comparable to Captain Dickison for this service. If he had the requisite rank he could retain his present command, three companies and a section of artillery, and also the special, or, as it is called here, commissary battalion of nine companies and about 800 men. This battalion was organized by the War Department for the purpose of collecting cattle, but is called on to render more military service when needed. I do not propose to interfere with the organization of the battalion, but simply to have Captain Dickison given sufficient rank (the battalion is commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Munnerlyn) to enable him to exercise command over it. I am convinced that if this recommendation is adopted it will conduce to the interest of the service, and therefore respectfully urge that it be done as soon as practicable.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Report forwarded direct to the Adjutant and Inspector General because I do not know when or where the copy sent to Lieutenant-General Hardee will reach him, and the uncertainty of reaching him also.

SAM. JONES,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, Fla., March 13, 1865.

Lient. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

Comdg. Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida:

GENERAL: In an interview I had with you a day or two before I left Charleston you gave as a reason for assigning me to the command of this district that, in the event of your being cut off from this section of country by the movements of the enemy, you desired to have in command here an officer of experience, and of such rank as would enable him to command in Southern Georgia in the event of any emergency rendering it desirable to do so; and you added that if after entering on command here I judged it advisable that my command should be extended to embrace Southern Georgia, or so much of it as was in your department, you would do it. I am convinced that all of Georgia south of the Altamaha, the Ocmulgee Rivers, and Muscogee and South Western Railroad, or the Eufaula Railroad, and the counties of Alabama adjacent to the Chattahoochee and south of Columbus should be under one commander. Under the altered aspect of affairs, the fall of Savannah and Charleston, the march of the enemy through South Carolina, and the transfer of the greater part of the Army of Tennessee north of the Savannah River, the present arrangement of districts seems to me very defective and inconvenient. As I understand it, the part of Georgia south of Altamaha and east of the Allapaha is in the District of Georgia, headquarters at Augusta, and the portion of Southern Georgia west of the Allapaha is in [a] district of the Department of Tennessee. Who commands that department, if there is such a department now, and where the headquarters are, I do not know.

There is no good reason, that I can see, why South Georgia should be so divided, and many reasons why it should be under one command, and incorporated with the District of Florida. All of it, and especially the eastern portion, through which the Savannah, Albany and Gulf Railroad passes, is in easier and more direct communication with Florida than with any other portion of your department.

There is a regiment and battalion of cavalry (Colonel Clinch's regiment, and the Twenty-ninth Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Hood), south of the Altamaha, but the commanders inform me they have little or no communication with Augusta, the headquarters of the district, and have been for a long time without orders or instructions. It would be useless, I think, to order them away. The men are from that section of country, and public sentiment there is so deplorably disloyal that the men would not go away if ordered; but they may be made useful in that section of country in preventing the enemy from occupying and cultivating the coast, and in co-operating with the troops in this district for its defense. Both the regiment and battalion, I understand, desire to be attached to this district. I have given them some orders and instructions and shall continue to do so when occasion requires it, unless I am instructed to the contrary, but it will be much better to place them, by orders, in this district. I think the enemy will renew the attempt recently made to get possession of this place and to penetrate up the Appalachicola, Chattahoochee, and Flint Rivers. Hence, I think the officer commanding this district should also have control in the adjacent parts of Georgia and Alabama. Any local troops that may be in that part of Alabama might be used to prevent raids through the portion of West Florida in this district. Whilst this section of country is so effectually cut off from communication with Richmond and department headquarters (I have not received orders or instructions from either place since I have been here), additional authority should be given to the commander. Under existing orders and regulations much of the business of the district requires the action of department headquarters, but I do not know where they are, and if they are in South Carolina it requires a long time to communicate with them. I have taken the responsibility, and shall continue to do so until further orders, to act in all such cases as I thought best, without referring to department headquarters. But it will be much better to confer the authority upon me or whoever commands in this section and recall it when there is no longer necessity for it. It will hardly be supposed that I make these suggestions simply to enlarge the area of my authority. I have known for the greater part of three years now the anxious, harassing, and thankless duty of commanding in a large area of country without anything approaching the adequate means of defending it. I make the suggestions because I think, if adopted, they will tend to promote the interest of our country and cause. I shall send this to you by a special messenger, and have to request that you will communicate with me on the subject with as little delay as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded direct to the Adjutant and Inspector General, because I do not know when or where the copy forwarded to General Hardee will reach him.

SAM. JONES,
Major-General.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, March 14, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: Great disorders are already coming from the selling of spirits to the soldiers in the city, and the evil may be expected to increase as the number of soldiers increases. It is somewhat embarrassing for civil officers to assume authority to remove or destroy private property, and I therefore have to request you, in the name of the loyal and orderly citizens of this city, to issue orders for the immediate removal or destruction of all liquors in this place, except such small quantities as may be necessary for family and medical purposes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. B. VANCE.

GREENSBOROUGH, N. C., *March 14, 1865—1 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Kaleigh*:

Sherman is moving doubtless to form junction with Schofield's forces about Goldsborough. As you cannot yet check him, it would be well to concentrate all your forces against Schofield and crush him before that junction can be made.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SMITH'S FERRY, *March 14, 1865—2 p. m.*
(Via Barbee's, 4 a. m. 15th.)

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

The enemy advanced on the river and plank roads to-day to Silver Creek, where I had a brigade of infantry intrenched to support the cavalry; then Hampton fell back. At his request the infantry was withdrawn, and the line occupied by dismounted cavalry. The enemy came upon and felt the lines sharply, and retired about four miles. I was on the cavalry front myself to-day, and don't think the advance in this direction was serious or in large force. Distant cannonading heard this evening, supposed to be on the Clinton road, in Butler's front. I expect to hear from him during the night.

W. J. HARRIS.

[MARCH 14, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (two dispatches), reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1126.]

HEADQUARTERS TENNESSEE BRIGADE,
March 11, 1865.

Col. H. M. ASHBY:

COLONEL: Warren's scouts have just returned. They report that they followed the river road near Beasley's Mills, two miles this side of the bridge, and found the enemy encamped there in heavy force. They say there was a considerable stir in camp about midnight. They think they were moving out their wagons on the plank road.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. KUHN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Tennessee Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS TENNESSEE CAVALRY BRIGADE,
River Road, March 14, 1865—7.30 o'clock.

Captain WALKER,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Captain Moore, commanding picket, reports the enemy's cavalry advancing on this road. Their advance was about two miles beyond our vedettes at 6 o'clock this morning. He thinks that they are advancing slowly and cautiously.

I am, captain, your obedient servant,

J. H. KUHN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

RALEIGH, March 14, 1865.

Colonel PARKER:

General Johnston directs that you make immediate arrangements for the transportation of the Federal prisoners here to the point on the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad nearest to the Danville railroad. Colonel Cunningham will have command of the guard (State troops), and will be directed to confer with you. Capt. John Robinson, engineer, will give you information about railroad trains, and you should see him. I will send the guard to report to you, and you will please turn it over to Colonel Cunningham.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Col. A. ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.:

COLONEL: I have the honor to state that fifty men of the North Carolina militia will be insufficient to guard 500 prisoners on the march between the two railroads. It will require at least twenty-five on guard at a time, and the militia, being unaccustomed to fatigue and exposure, will prove much less efficient than a smaller number of troops accustomed to marching and doing duty as sentinels. I would respectfully recommend that the number be increased to 75 or 100 if practicable.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. A. CUNNINGHAM,
Colonel, &c.

SMITHFIELD, March 14, 1865.

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,

Secretary of War, Richmond:

Your order for Major Reid will be promptly obeyed, but I know not how to feed this command without him. I have no competent officer to relieve him, and no one can replace him, for want of his local knowledge and experience.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, *March 14, 1865—2.15 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh*:

I encamp at Smithfield to-night. Tennessee troops are all up. My own will be up to-morrow. The enemy had not advanced on Kinston last night.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SMITHFIELD, *March 14, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh*:

The pontoons at Goldsborough are too heavy for field transportation. We have a good bridge here. Shall I exercise temporary command of all the troops in this vicinity?

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Peters' Cross-Roads, March 14, 1865.

Col. THEODORE G. BARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In a communication of the 12th from Col. John B. Sale, assistant adjutant-general for General Bragg, received on the morning of the 13th, I was ordered to change my course from Raleigh and take position on the highway leading from Fayetteville to Goldsborough, placing pickets on the South River, which is also known as Black River, and to communicate with Lieutenant-General Hampton. I have the honor to state that I reached this point (eight miles from South River) late yesterday evening and sent out pickets on this road four miles in advance of my present position and also on the other road running parallel with the one I am on. I will advance my picket this morning to the river on this road, and scout the other road as far as the river. Will you send a courier back with mine, so that you may know my position and extend me any information that may be important for my safety. I am ordered to report by courier daily to General Bragg at Goldsborough, and if the enemy advance, to fall back either toward Goldsborough or Smithfield, but if it should become necessary for me to move in any other direction or dangerous to await orders from General Bragg, will you please extend to me such orders as you think best. I have one man claiming to belong to Wheeler's command and one belonging to the navy, arrested by my picket last night, and have seen others straggling about the country, claiming to belong to Wheeler's command. If you will send a courier back with mine, I will send the two men I have by him to you.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
[*Smithfield,*] *March 14, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

Colonel LIPSCOMB,
Second South Carolina Cavalry:

COLONEL: For the present the headquarters of the general commanding have been changed to this place. You will accordingly change your own position, so as to observe the approaches from Fayetteville to

this place, as well as any movement of the enemy from Fayetteville toward north or east in force, and send your reports here instead of to Goldsborough. Report your precise position, as changed, by return courier.

Respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, March 15, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,

Comdg. Dept. of North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida :

GENERAL: I received to-day by Major Saunders your letter of the 11th instant. You will probably have received by this time my communication of the same date, in which I endeavored to describe to you my condition. You are right in supposing that the course you may be able to pursue will materially affect mine. If you are forced back from Raleigh, and we be deprived of the supplies from East North Carolina, I do not know how this army can be supported. Yet a disaster to your army will not improve my condition, and while I would urge upon you to neglect no opportunity of delivering the enemy a successful blow, I would not recommend you to engage in a general battle without a reasonable prospect of success. I think it more probable that Sherman will unite Schofield with him at Raleigh than that he will unite with Schofield near Kinston; but in either event an opportunity may occur for you and Bragg to unite upon one of their columns and crush it. I do not think I could maintain my position were I further to reduce my force. That you may understand my situation I will state that the supplies in Virginia are exhausted. The enemy has succeeded in cutting off the Weldon railroad, and my only reliance is the communication by Danville. General Grant has intrenched himself on both sides of James River, stretching toward the swamps of the Chickahominy on the north bank, and Hatcher's Run on the south. On this long line, with far inferior numbers, I confront him. His numerical superiority has been increased since detaching Hoke, Conner, and Hampton. His present preponderance in cavalry, and his ability unperceived to mass his troops while holding his intrenchments on either side of the river, enables him constantly to threaten our flanks and causes legitimate apprehension for the safety of the Danville road. You will therefore perceive that if I contract my lines as you propose, with the view of holding Richmond, our only resource for obtaining subsistence will be cut off, and the city must be abandoned; whereas, if I take a position to maintain the road, Richmond will be lost. I think you can now understand the condition of affairs and correctly estimate the importance of resisting the farther advance of Sherman. But should that not be possible, you will also see that I cannot remain here, but must start out and seek a favorable opportunity for battle. I shall maintain my position as long as it appears advisable, both from the moral and material advantages of holding Richmond and Virginia. If obliged to abandon it, so far as I can now see I shall be compelled to fall back to the Danville road for subsistence, and unless that subsistence can be supplied from the State of North Carolina, I do not know whence it can be obtained. If Richmond is given up the sooner we can strike one of the columns of the enemy the better, but on which side of the

Roanoke must depend on circumstances. Should Gaston be your best point to reach the Roanoke, as stated by Generals Holmes and Gatlin, you would have the advantage of the bridge at that place on which to cross the river; but unless you could bring supplies with you I think your army would suffer. I have sent an engineer officer to examine the crossings, roads, &c., from Danville to Field's Ferry, below Clarks-ville. I recommend you do the same. Information as to what provisions and forage can be relied on I think also desirable. In my opinion the farther east we confine Sherman the better, and the more room it will allow for maneuvering the armies. I have endeavored to give you all information necessary for determining your operations. If there is any point on which you wish further, please advise me. I have not pretended to lay down fixed rules, which at this distance and at this time cannot safely be done, but rely upon your good judgment and skill to accomplish everything that is possible to attain our common end—the greatest success. Unity of purpose and harmony of action between the two armies, with the blessing of God, I trust will relieve us from the difficulties that now beset us.

Most truly and respectfully, yours,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 15, 1865—8 a. m.*

Col. J. M. OTEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C. :

Order General Robertson, through several messengers from Camden, to come to this place by the best and most direct route, avoiding Fayetteville, now occupied by enemy. He must report what route he will follow.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 15, 1865—8 a. m.*

Col. J. M. OTEY,

Charlotte, N. C. :

General Johnston's orders as follows: General Lee must bring at most only one battalion artillery; rest must return to Augusta, thence to Macon. Major Ayer must lend to Maj. W. H. Smith 400 wagons of Army of Tennessee to be used as follows: One hundred on road from Black Stocks or Winnsborough to Alston; 200 from Abbeville to Washington, and 100 to collect supplies in Northwestern South Carolina. Major McCrady must push on rapidly repairs of roads from Chester to Georgia road, via Winnsborough, Alston, Abbeville, and Washington. He must report weekly progress.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 15, 1865—1 p. m.*

Col. J. M. OTEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C. :

Order General Lee to bring with him all the caissons he may have with him. Order Major Ayer to send Maj. J. B. Moore to report to General Johnston forthwith.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AVERASBOROUGH, *March 15, 1865.*

(Via Barbee's, 12.30 p. m.)

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh, N. C.:

The enemy, after being checked at Silver Run, retired toward Fayetteville. Hampton has transferred his command over Black River, to be in front of any movement upon Goldsborough. I heard nothing from Butler on the Clinton road during the night, and I am holding my command here awaiting further information. Prisoners say Sherman is receiving supplies at Fayetteville, by water, from Wilmington.

W. J. HARDEE.

Abstract from field return of McLaws' division for March 15, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
	Officers.	Men.			
Conner's brigade.....			1,217	1,294	1,452
Blanchard's brigade.....			326	382	440
Harrison's brigade.....			788	1,034	1,115
Fieser's brigade.....			725	819	880
Hardy's brigade.....			329	409	448
Henderson's brigade.....			270	344	385
Brooks' battalion artillery.....					
Grand total.....			3,655	4,282	4,720

SMITHFIELD, *March 15, 1865—8.30 a. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh:

Enemy reported last night as having crossed at Kinston in small force. Your dispatch received placing me in command here.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 15, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB:

Your two dispatches by courier (yesterday's date) came last night. On our arrival here yesterday afternoon a courier was dispatched to you, by direction of the general commanding, advising you that headquarters are here for the present, and instructing you to so modify the disposition of your command as to adapt it to the change here made, still covering and holding in observation the approaches from Fayetteville northward and eastward, and to send your reports here instead of to Goldsborough. These instructions are now repeated. Your report is a little indefinite as to the crossing of the enemy at Blockersville, and proceeding up the Warsaw road. Have you since ascertained such to be the fact? It will be necessary that you send a courier daily to me to report positions, discoveries, &c. Your order to Lieutenant Stack

is approved. Your suggestion in reference to impressment of cavalry horses is adopted, but you will impress only in your front and as you fall back, but do not disperse your men to the rear for that purpose.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 15, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Commanding Second South Carolina Cavalry :

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you move your command at once via Goldsborough, and take position in front of and near to the enemy, who is moving from about Kinston in this direction. Dispose your men so as to observe all the avenues of approach, and to this end you had better place a detachment on the south side of the river. If he advance impede his progress and learn his movements. Report daily from the nearest telegraph office, and oftener when necessary. Report by courier should the telegraph at any time become impracticable. Captain Chesnut's (Captain Macfie's) squadron will be ordered to join you as soon as he can be found.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 15, 1865.*

Col. S. D. POOL,
Goldsborough, N. C. :

Dispatches received last night. Instruct Colonel Baird to keep close to the enemy, and fall back in their immediate front, reporting regularly. Your suggestion for railroad transportation for cotton referred to Major Cameron for attention if practicable.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.]

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*
(Received 6.45.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

I respectfully request revocation of Special Orders, No. 43, paragraph XXIV, assigning General Shoup. I had on assuming command assigned Brigadier-General Mackall to the duty to which General Pillow is assigned in Special Orders, No. 51. Shall I revoke my order?

J. E. JOHNSTON.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

Your letter of the 11th received. I will do my utmost to fulfill your wishes. Have already ordered 300 wagons, Army of Tennessee, to be used in filling gaps in railroad, and 100 in collecting supplies for you in South Carolina. Federal army east of Cape Fear, but still near Fayetteville.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865—7 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Please issue the order putting me second in command. I desire no other position at present, on account of my health.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 2. }

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, N. C., March 16, 1865.

General G. T. Beauregard is announced as second in command of this army.

By order of General Johnston:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 6. }

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, N. C., March 16, 1865.

I. Lieut. Gen. A. P. Stewart will assume command of the infantry and artillery of the Army of Tennessee.

* * * * *

IV. Baker's brigade is assigned to Clayton's division.

* * * * *

By order of General Johnston:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865—7 a. m.*

Col. G. W. BRENT, *Charlotte, N. C.:*

Go to Chester to expedite movement of troops and trains to Smithfield. Colonel Waddy must report here. Procure telegrams of yesterday to Colonel Otey, and carry out instructions therein contained. Enemy still at Fayetteville.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Col. GEORGE W. BRENT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Chester, or Charlotte:

Order Brig. Gen. B. H. Robertson, now near Camden, S. C., through several messengers, to move to this place with his command by the best and shortest route, avoiding Fayetteville. He must report what route he will follow, and move promptly.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

General S. D. LEE:

(Care of General B. D. Fry, Augusta, or on way. From Winnsborough by courier-line.)

General Johnston orders that you bring at most only one battalion of artillery, but all the caissons available. Rest must return to Macon.

Major Ayer must turn over to Maj. Norman W. Smith, quartermaster, 400 wagons of Army of Tennessee, to be used as follows: one hundred from Black Stocks or Winnsborough to Alston, 200 from Abbeville to Washington, and 100 to collect supplies in Northwestern South Carolina. Order Major Ayer to send Maj. J. Blue Moore to report to General Johnston.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865.*

General B. D. FRY,
Augusta, Ga.:

(From Winnsborough by courier-line.)

Extend courier-line to Winnsborough, as ordered. Prompt action is needed. Couriers should make seven miles an hour.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 16, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. B. H. ROBERTSON,
Camden, S. C.:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you move at once with your command to Raleigh, N. C., by the best and most direct route, avoiding Fayetteville, now occupied by the enemy. You will report to General Beauregard the route you follow.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865—7 p. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Salisbury, N. C.:

You will send the horses referred to in your telegram of this date to Captain Robinson by dirt road to Greensborough, where they will take cars to Smithfield. Wagons, ambulances, and artillery must be taken off wheels and sent on by cars.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield Town, March 16, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Averasborough:

Make a day's march in this direction, leaving a rear guard under your most competent officer to support the cavalry, which will remain to observe and keep enemy in check. Let engineer officers find roads leading across into the Fayetteville and Raleigh road. Inform General

Hampton of the intended movement. Establish a line of couriers to this place. Let me know your position to-night. Turn all of your reserve artillery fit for service to Smithfield.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

9.30 A. M.

P. S.—Please inform General Hampton that General Bragg says there are considerable stores (quartermaster and commissary) at Clinton. General Johnston desires him to use or remove them if practicable. The advance of a column of the enemy (force not known) was last evening at White Hall, on the Neuse, above Kinston. This information should also be furnished General Hampton. Opposing this force General Bragg has 1,000 infantry and a squadron of cavalry.

I am, general, very respectfully,
ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MARCH 15 [16], 1865.—For Hardee to Johnston, 3.30 p. m., reporting operations at Averasborough, see Part I, p. 1073.]

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865—4 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Near Averasborough :

Dispatch 11.30 a. m. received. The instructions to you to move toward Smithfield were based on the idea given by the weak demonstration reported by you yesterday that the enemy was merely clearing his left flank to march toward Clinton or Goldsborough. Unless you are informed that he is pressing General Hampton so strongly as to confirm that idea, do not obey the order of this morning to march on Smithfield, but leave the enemy no farther than may be necessary to your safety, so that if he moves toward Raleigh with his army you may keep before him. If he turns to the east you may come toward Smithfield.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

[MARCH 16, 1865.—For Hardee to Johnston, 4.30 p. m., reporting operations at Averasborough see Part I, p. 1074.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 16, 1865—10.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE :

Your dispatch of 4.30 p. m. received. At what point has the enemy crossed the Black River—near the Clinton road, as if to move toward Goldsborough, or near your position, as if to turn your flank and move toward Raleigh ? Please give all the information you have from General Hampton in regard to their movements, in order that we may regulate our own accordingly. If you are moving this way you had better have the telegraph office at Barbee's moved to Raleigh.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 16, 1865.

Lieutenant-General STEWART, *Commanding Army of Tennessee:*

GENERAL: General Johnston desires that you will communicate to the Army of Tennessee that at this time, in presence of the enemy, no furloughs can be granted. As soon, however, as such indulgence can be allowed consistently with the good of the service they will be recommenced upon a liberal system.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
No. 1. } *Smithfield, March 16, 1865.*

In obedience to Special Orders, No. 6, from the headquarters of General Johnston, dated at Smithfield, March 16, 1865, I assume command of the infantry and artillery of the Army of Tennessee.

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

ONE MILE FROM SMITH'S HOUSE,
March 16, 1865—11.30 a. m.

General HAMPTON, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: I have already informed you by one of your couriers that the enemy attacked me this morning at 7 o'clock, and we have been fighting him ever since. Rhett's brigade fell back in some disorder, but rallied on Elliott. My principal fight will be at this point, where McLaws has his entire division. I expected to have your assistance to-day, and I regret that circumstances compelled you to send Wheeler elsewhere. Unless the enemy brings up a heavier force than he has yet shown I have no doubt of my ability to hold my position till night, when I shall retire, in obedience to what I regard as General Johnston's wishes, on the Smithfield road. The general is himself at Smithfield. I hope to see you to-night. When I pass Averagesborough Raleigh will be entirely uncovered. You must endeavor to place some cavalry to cover it.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR SMITH'S, *March 16, 1865—1 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee has twice written to you this morning. The enemy are pressing us heavily and by flank movements compelled our withdrawal from two advanced lines. We are now on the main line. General Wheeler is here and has sent back four miles to hurry up his command. The boat howitzer has been fitted up and I sent it on the Averagesborough and Smithfield road by a courier of yours, who said you would be on that road.

Yours, very respectfully,

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

March 16, 1865—6.35 a. m.

Major McCLELLAN,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I regret to say that no information has yet been received from Colonel McLemore, in response to the dispatch directing him to send scouts to ascertain what force of enemy had passed up the plank road, nor has the courier returned. I inclose dispatch just received from General Allen. Neither of the dispatches referred to by him were brought by the courier.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,

Major-General.

N. B.—The dispatches referred to by General Allen have just come in and are inclosed.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,

March 16, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,

Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to forward a communication just received from Captain Wright, commanding Shaw's battalion, to Colonel White, commanding Hagan's brigade. I had sent a picket also to Stallings Bridge, with a view to covering the crossings over Mingo Creek. I therefore released the picket on Mingo Creek, hence the roads to your headquarters and to the rear of Lieutenant-Colonel Davant (Fifth Georgia Cavalry), commanding picket at Smith's Mill, are left open. I shall move at a very early hour this morning down to the point at which the road from Stallings Bridge to Smithfield intersects this road (leading from Averborough to Clinton). I think it will be better to withdraw Colonel Davant back to this road. If the general thinks it best to do so, please direct him to withdraw through the courier who bears this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Since writing the above the accompanying note from General Law has come in to be forwarded to General Hampton.

Respectfully,

W. W. A.

MCDONALD'S CROSS-ROADS, *March 16, 1865.*

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: As the enemy, with infantry and cavalry, crossed at Smith's Mill, I have directed Colonel Davant to fall back, when forced to do so, toward the bridge over Black River, where you crossed. It is important to hold the Smithfield road, and there Colonel Davant is directed to make a stand. You can re-enforce him. Leave what force is necessary to cover the road to Raleigh, and you can bring the rest of your force up the Smithfield road. Should you meet any of my artillery

bring it along. As a strong force is now in the fork of the Black River and Mingo Creek I shall place a small picket at the bridge over the latter, with directions to burn it on approach of enemy. It will be destroyed at any rate in three hours. Colonel Dibrell reports the enemy as one mile east of this point and moving east. I will take him with me, connecting with the Second South Carolina Regiment, and covering the roads to Goldsborough and Smithfield. I think General Hardee should move as soon and as rapidly as he can, as the enemy are making toward Goldsborough. I shall be on the Clinton and Smithfield road.

Very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON.

[MARCH 16, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1126.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Stallings Bridge, March 16, 1865—9.15 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: Colonel Dibrell directs me to say to you that the enemy have made their appearance at the bridge and are attempting to cross.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. B. RAWORTH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQ.S. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 16, 1865.

Chief commissaries of corps, and of divisions not forming part of a corps, will at once report to Maj. S. V. Reid, acting chief commissary of the department, the times up to which their several commands are rationed. Hereafter (as long as the forces remain stationary) they will draw upon requisitions approved by the assistant adjutants-general of the respective commands and by Major Reid. During same time they will employ the brigade transportation in collecting supplies as far as practicable in the surrounding country, so as not to draw from the depot more than absolutely necessary.

By order of General Bragg:

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Camp, near Smithfield:

GENERAL: From near Burgaw Station you detached from your command and ordered to a position up the Cape Fear River toward Fayetteville, two companies of infantry, one of light artillery, and a detachment of engineer troops—names of the companies, &c., not known here. When the enemy's movements from east and south recently threatened to cut these troops off orders were sent them from these headquarters,

through Colonel Lipscomb, at Rocky Point, to proceed directly to Fayetteville, and there report for the time being to General Johnston, Lieutenant-General Hardee, or other senior officer present. It is presumed that these orders were obeyed, and that the detachments are probably now with Lieutenant-General Hardee. The general commanding now directs that they rejoin your command as early as practicable, and to that end that you forward them orders (accompanied by this note) through Lieutenant-General Hardee, designating the companies and detachment by name.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
March 16, 1865.

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your order of the 15th, directing me to move via Goldsborough and take position in front of and near to the enemy moving from Kinston to Smithfield, &c.

I had received written orders from General Hampton directing me to report to General Butler, and orders from General Butler directing me to leave the road I was picketing on this morning and report to him at Beaman's Cross-Roads. I carried the above order into execution, and, after reporting, received your dispatch to-night about 9 o'clock. I immediately submitted your order to General Butler and asked to be relieved from under his command in order that I might carry out your orders. It was promptly done, and I will leave here at daylight for Goldsborough. Your letter of the 8th, in regard to Lieutenant Thompson, was never received, or the order would have been obeyed at once. He is on detached duty at present, but I have sent for him, and your instructions [will be] carried out as soon as he reaches me, and a report submitted.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Colonel, Commanding.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865—9 a. m.*

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough:*

Ascertain if there is any force of the enemy on north side of Neuse. If none, then cross Whitford over to support Chesnut, and feel the enemy, to discover whether they have any infantry force behind their cavalry. Date your hours in telegrams.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough:*

Major Cameron has telegraphed you, and will again, about the transportation for the supplies named. Colonel Lipscomb is ordered to the enemy's Kinston front from the Fayetteville front, and will pass

Goldsborough to-morrow. Tell Chesnut to remain and report to Colonel Lipscomb on his arrival. Enemy's cavalry can be easily driven back. Guard well the railroad and county bridges over Neuse River, so as to keep open communication this way. Do not evacuate until driven away. No small force can do that. Colonel Whitford will remain for defense until ordered from here.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*

Col. S. D. POOL,
Goldsborough:

General Hoke says fifty men deserted to enemy before Kinston from Sixth North Carolina Cavalry. Thirty-one said to have been captured at Kinston and sent to Richmond as Yankee prisoners. Get names of all the deserters from Colonel Baird and report them here. Will send a man to Richmond to identify.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*

Col. S. D. POOL,
Goldsborough:

Let cotton be saved. Keep us advised.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*

Col. J. N. WHITFORD,
Goldsborough:

Remain for protection of Goldsborough until otherwise ordered, or until driven away.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—10.30 a. m.

General R. E. LEE:

General Hardee was yesterday five miles south of Averagesborough. He was repeatedly attacked during the day by four divisions of the enemy, but always repulsed him. The enemy was reported at night to have crossed Black River to the east at various points with the rest of the army. General Hardee is moving to a point twelve miles from Smithfield. Schofield's troops are reported at Kinston, repairing the railroad bridge. Cheatham's corps not yet up. This railroad, with its enormous amount of rolling-stock, has brought us only about 500 men a day.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh :

The railroad has brought us in the past thirteen days but some 500 men a day. I beg you to use your influence to improve its working for our benefit. We have troops at Salisbury, as well as wagons and teams, waiting for transportation. Enemy's army is along Black River. They attacked General Hardee repeatedly yesterday and were always repulsed, we think with very considerable loss.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh :

The troops which attacked Hardee yesterday were the Fourteenth and most of the Twentieth Corps. Our loss between 400 and 500. Prisoners taken this morning give the Federal loss at 3,300.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Raleigh :

The enemy were attacking General Hardee's position five miles south of Avera'sborough all day yesterday; always repulsed. Our loss between 400 and 500. Prisoners taken this morning report Federal loss at 3,300. Please hurry S. D. Lee, and desire commanding officer at Salisbury to send on transportation and artillery horses along the railroad, to be taken up wherever they may meet trains.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C. :

Telegraph superintendent here informs me General Hardee has ordered office at Barbee's closed and operator come here. I have ordered him to stop temporarily at Banks', twelve miles from here. General Hardee's order indicates movement of enemy on this place.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

(Same to General Bragg.)

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—4 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C. :

Had already given orders referred to for General Lee to hurry up his infantry and for transportation and artillery horses from Salisbury to march to Greensborough. I will extend the order still further. I have ordered Gaston bridge to be floored.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—8 p. m.*General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Have issued the orders as received, but if preferred all batteries can be stopped at Greensborough or Hillsborough and their horses only sent on.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, or
General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Pontoon train of Army of Tennessee may not be here in time. Lieutenant-Colonel Guion had one last spring with Hoke's expedition against New Berne. It might be well to secure its use.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Report of the effective strength of the army March 17, 1865.

	Effective strength.	Total present.	Aggregate present.	Remarks.
Army of Tennessee, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Stewart commanding:				
Lee's corps	2,660	3,390	3,883	Cleburne's and Brown's divisions (Cheatham's corps) and the artillery not yet arrived.
Stewart's corps	890	1,349	1,513	
Bate's division	406	567	640	
Total army	3,956	5,306	6,036	
Hardee's corps, Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee commanding:				
McLaws' division	3,655	4,182	4,720	These figures are taken from the reports of the 14th.
Taliaferro's division	2,800	3,268	3,484	
Total	6,455	7,450	8,204	
Troops Department of North Carolina, General Braxton Bragg commanding:				
Hoke's division	4,775	4,988	5,447	
Recapitulation:				
Army of Tennessee	3,956	5,306	6,036	
Hardee's corps	6,455	7,450	8,204	
Troops Department of North Carolina	4,775	4,988	5,447	
Total infantry	15,186	17,744	19,687	

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Memorandum.)

Effective total artillery, Hardee's corps, 927; effective total artillery, Department of North Carolina, 782; artillery Army of Tennessee not yet arrived. In report of troops of Department of North Carolina, Colonel Whitford commanding Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth North Carolina Regiments belong to Hoke's Division, but being at Goldsborough their strength is only approximated. The Sixth North Carolina Cavalry is also at Goldsborough and Kinston. The Second South Carolina Cavalry is now moving to Goldsborough.

HEADQUARTERS,
*Five Miles from Averasborough, on Averasborough and
Smithfield Road, March 17, 1865—1 a. m.*

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: There was little important fighting after my dispatch to you of 4.30 p. m. 16th instant. My loss is between 400 and 500. Among the missing is Colonel Rhett, commanding brigade, and among the killed Lieut. Col. Robert De Treville. Enemy's loss not known, but believed to be heavy. Two pieces of artillery were abandoned, the limber of one being blown off and the horses of both killed. Your dispatch of 4 p. m., countermanding the movement to Smithfield upon certain conditions, was received at 11 p. m., too late to arrest the movement. My trains had gone on to Elevation. I can, however, if you think it best, move from that point to Raleigh.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR BLACK RIVER,
March 17, 1865—4.30 a. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 10 p. m. just received. The enemy has crossed Black River just above Mingo Creek, and at all, or nearly all, the crossings below. General Hampton says all the army has crossed except the Fourteenth Corps and one division of the Twentieth Corps, which were on the plank road, and which we fought yesterday. General Hampton promised to send you direct all the information of the enemy, else I would have been more particular. General Wheeler came to my assistance late yesterday afternoon and rendered valuable service. He is now in my rear with 500 or 600 men, and will ascertain whether the force on the plank road goes to Raleigh or crosses Black River. I hope to get my command to Elevation by 12 o'clock. The roads are almost impassable. At 1 o'clock Wheeler writes the enemy had not discovered my movement, but were busily engaged fortifying.

Respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—6 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

Your dispatch of 1 a. m. received. If the enemy is moving on Raleigh I wish you to take the best and nearest route you can to that point. The troops here will join you on it, as far from Raleigh as practicable; so let us know your route as quickly as possible. Ascertain if there are bridges upon the road you take over three large creeks, Black, Middle, and Swift, the two last especially, which can only be crossed on bridges. If the enemy has not moved on Raleigh, but on Goldsborough or this place, then continue in this direction.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

NEAR BLACK RIVER,
March 17, 1865—7 a. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I dispatched you this morning at 4.30 o'clock, giving you the information you desire respecting the movements of the enemy, particularly the points at which they crossed Black River. The highest point at which they crossed was at Smith's Mill, half a mile above Mingo Creek. The other crossings were below. General Hampton reports all Sherman's army across Black River except the Fourteenth Corps and one division of the Twentieth Corps, which he stated was on the plank road. You inquire about the location of Elevation. My map places it midway between Averagesborough and Smithfield, and at the intersection of the road running between these two places with the road running from Smith's Ferry to Raleigh. I have not heard from Wheeler since 1 a. m.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—Hampton believes the enemy moving on Goldsborough.
W. J. HARDEE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: You had better halt at Elevation till you ascertain definitely the enemy's movements. Our nearest troops are about nine miles from that point. Schofield's force is reported at Kinston, repairing the railroad bridge.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

ELEVATION, March 17, 1865—1 p. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I did not design moving beyond this point, but I find the map is incorrect and that the intersection of the roads is not at this point, but two miles nearer Smithfield, to which place I am moving. I do not believe the enemy is moving on Raleigh; if so, the force which has crossed Black River must come to this intersection, as there is no other road east of Black River on which he can move. I will endeavor to obtain all the information I can in reference to bridges, &c., on the road to Raleigh, and if the enemy should move there will keep in front of him. I send you a dispatch from Wheeler. To-day will develop the purposes of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—Your order relative to McLaws has been received. I instructed General Hampton to send General McLaws to me. He has not come. I have thought it best not to mention the order to any one till McLaws arrives.

W. J. H.

ELEVATION, *March 17, 1865—2.50 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I send you a dispatch* from General Hampton, which I do not understand; it may be the roads he speaks of are better understood by you than me. I inclose two dispatches† from Wheeler. I can't believe the enemy intends a serious advance on this or the Raleigh road. If he divides his forces you will have the opportunity to concentrate and whip him. I have a brigade on Hannah's Creek to cover an advance in that direction. The surplus artillery, fifty-two pieces, ought to be at Leachburg to-night en route for Smithfield. Hender-son's brigade is with it.

Respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 2.50 p. m., covering notes from Major-General Wheeler and Lieutenant-General Hampton, received. Something must be done to-morrow morning, and yet I have no satisfactory information as to the enemy's movements. Can you give me any certain information of the position of the force you engaged yesterday, or any other, but especially that which you engaged? Send it immediately by a trusty and well mounted courier, to come all the way rapidly. The courier-line is very slow.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

P. S.—We must have your intelligence before daybreak.

J. E. J.

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 16. }

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, March 17, 1865.

The lieutenant-general commanding thanks the officers and men of this command for their courage and conduct of yesterday, and congratulates them upon giving the enemy the first serious check he has received since leaving Atlanta. This command contended with the Fourteenth Army Corps, most of the Twentieth, Kilpatrick's cavalry command—three times their number—and while they sustained a loss of less than 500 men, they inflicted upon the enemy, by accounts of prisoners, a loss of 3,300. The lieutenant-general augurs happily of the future service and reputation of troops who have signalized the opening of the campaign by admirable steadiness, endurance, and courage.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

* See 7.15 a. m., p. 1414.

† See 6.30 and 6.40 a. m., p. 1416.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C.:

Important telegrams now at Winnsborough to go through to Augusta. Make arrangements to send them on immediately. Capt. R. Ward has been put in charge of an independent line of couriers from Columbia to Winnsborough, and General Fry has been ordered to extend his line to Winnsborough. Call on these officers for explanation of non-execution of orders

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C.:

Wagons referred to in dispatch of 15th should be turned over to Maj. Norman W. Smith, quartermaster, not Maj. W. H. Smith, commissary of subsistence. Please see to it.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C.:

Colonel Roman, Majors Bryan and Eustis will remain, respectively, at or about Augusta, Milledgeville, and Chester or Winnsborough, to inspect and direct movement of troops and supplies. Rest of staff, including yourself, will rejoin me wherever I may be.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. S. D. LEE,
Augusta:

(Via Winnsborough and Courier-Line.)

You must hasten with your infantry as rapidly as possible, leaving, if practicable, the artillery, pontoon, and wagon trains to follow under escort of one brigade.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
March 17, 1865—7 p. m.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: On yesterday Major Edmonston turned over to me for my corps (before I was directed to take command of the Army of Tennessee) twelve wagons and one cart. Two wagons were retained for corps headquarters, six were given to Loring's division, four wagons and the cart to Walthall's. I learn that Major Edmonston also turned over either thirteen or fourteen wagons to Hill's corps. These were

sent for to-day to go to Bate, but I am informed they are out foraging, and cannot be had before to-morrow. So soon as they arrive they will be distributed so as to make a fair division between mine and Cheatham's corps. To-day five wagons received from Major Edmonston were given to Bate. I did not know until to-day of any wagons being turned over by Major Edmonston to Hill's corps. Loring and Walthall have each five four-horse wagons, which they brought from Goldsborough. Of the twelve wagons received for my corps yesterday there were six four-horse and six two-horse of those turned over to Hill's corps. I learn there were six or seven four-horse and seven two-horse. The five given to Bate were four-horse.

Very respectfully,

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, N. C., March 17, 1865—7.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee :

GENERAL: General Johnston desires you will procure immediately from Major Edmonston ten wagons and teams which he has here in charge of the post quartermaster for fair distribution to your corps and Bate's division. Estimating from the figures given in your note it would appear that your corps has now one four-horse wagon for every seventy-nine men, and Bate's division one for every 128; besides some other brigades of Cheatham's corps have just arrived. Hence, the larger proportion of these ten wagons, all things considered, should go to Cheatham's corps. These wagons should be procured to-night, as we must be ready to move to-morrow morning at daybreak.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *March 17, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee :

GENERAL: General Johnston directs that you hold your command in readiness to move at dawn to-morrow morning.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
March 17, 1865—10.45 p. m.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General :

If the ten wagons which have just come were distributed proportionally to Bate, Loring, and Walthall, it would give Bate four, Loring five, and Walthall one. This would give them four-horse wagons in proportion to number of men. Not knowing how many more of

Cheatham's troops have arrived, and to make sure of giving them their share, I will send eight of these wagons to them and two to Loring. To-day the command received orders to have three days cooked rations from to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR BLACK RIVER BRIDGE,
March 17, 1865—4.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON:

GENERAL: All attacks of the enemy were repelled yesterday. General Hardee will to-day march to Elevation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LASSELLE'S HOUSE,
*Near Intersection of Smithfield and Goldsborough Roads,
March 17, 1865—7.15 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: I find the enemy on the roads leading from Stallings and Graham's Bridges. They camped last night where the road from the latter to Goldsborough crosses the Clinton and Smithfield road. I shall leave a strong picket at McDonald's Cross-Roads, with directions to fall back, if forced to do so, on the Smithfield road, thus covering your line of march. The rest of the force here I shall put on the Goldsborough road to assist in covering that point. If any portion of my command is now on the Smithfield road, and you can spare it, do send it on the Goldsborough road to join me. I shall be on the latter road to-day. If General Wheeler is with you will you advise him of my movements? I should like to hear the result of your fight yesterday. I hope it was successful, and that your casualties were light.

I am, very respectfully, yours,
WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
*Willis Cole's House, on Goldsborough Road,
Three Miles southwest of Bentonville, March 17, 1865—6 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: I inclose you two dispatches just received from General Butler which show his position.* Cobb's Mill is one mile from Beaman's Cross-Roads on road leading to Goldsborough. Blackman Lee's is on the Clinton and Smithfield road. I think that the enemy is moving on Goldsborough and his right will strike the Weldon and Wilmington Railroad at or below Faison's Depot. From the dispatch of General Johnston which you sent to me I infer that General Bragg's forces have all been withdrawn to Smithfield, except the 1,000 men-

* Only one found; see 3 p. m., p. 1421.

tioned as being on the Neuse River, above Kinston. I understand from citizens that the bridge at Goldsborough has been destroyed. I will keep in front of the enemy, between him and Smithfield and Goldsborough, until the very last moment, but the destruction of the bridge at Goldsborough will render it necessary for me to go above to cross the Neuse River. The position of the enemy's cavalry has not been sufficiently ascertained, but small bodies of cavalry have been observed in advance of their army, and but few prisoners have been taken from their cavalry. I fear that it may have moved up on the west side of the Cape Fear River, endeavoring to strike at our trains or to reach the railroad at Raleigh. Some disposition should be made to counteract such a movement. Two regiments of cavalry were left on the west side of the Cape Fear River, and Crews' brigade, which has been with General Stewart's corps, should be near enough to come between them and Raleigh, if they are moving in that direction. Colonel Dibrell's train, with four pieces of artillery, was two days' march behind the rest of Wheeler's wagons when last heard from, and Butler's wagons were, I understand, ordered from Charlotte to Raleigh. These trains would be in danger if the enemy's cavalry is on the west of the Cape Fear River. I will unite Dibrell's brigade with Butler to-morrow and impede the enemy all I can. Hart's battery (horse artillery) joined me to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Please send me by the bearer all the information you have of the movement and position of the enemy, the number of their columns, their location and distance apart, and distance from Goldsborough, and give me your opinion whether it is practicable to reach them from Smithfield on the south side of the river before they reach Goldsborough.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 17, 1865—12.45 a. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: On arriving at General Hardee's position yesterday morning I found him engaged with the enemy, and fought with him until dark. In obedience to his instructions General Allen will move on his right, to cover that flank while moving to Smithfield, and I remain with Ashby's command to cover his rear. Any communication will reach me at Elevation to-day.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

MARCH 17, 1865—4.30 a. m.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee begs that you will not leave Averbosborough to-day until the enemy make their appearance, and that you will endeavor to ascertain whether the enemy are going to Raleigh or Smithfield.

Respectfully,

T. B. ROY.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Averbosborough, March 17, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: A prisoner of Fourteenth Corps brought in this morning states that his corps and most of the Twentieth were engaged in the fight yesterday; that Kilpatrick commenced the fight, but retired soon as the infantry came up; that the loss in his brigade was about 300, and of the whole command was about 3,300 men; that General Slocum was on the field and commanded the forces. He thinks Kilpatrick came up to the front this morning. He says General Slocum told his men that they were fighting 15,000 men. Their officers told them they thought they were commanded by General Hardee. The enemy are advancing this morning.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 17, 1865—6.40 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The prisoner captured this morning states that their army are going to Goldsborough and not to Raleigh. Your dispatch of 4.30 this a. m. received, and its instructions will be obeyed.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Averbosborough, March 17, 1865—9.05 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE:

GENERAL: The enemy have advanced very near this place with a line of battle of infantry. Cavalry has also been seen. When driven back [*sic.*] I will turn off toward Smithfield with my main force, and will send a regiment on the road toward Raleigh. I do not think the enemy will go farther toward Raleigh than where the road turns off to Smithfield. Colonel Ashby has sent off all the wounded which could travel, and has left rations for such as were not able to travel. He has also a force keeping up all stragglers.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

March 17, 1865—10.40 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Your dispatch received. I did leave one regiment Texas Rangers to fall back on the Raleigh road. It cannot yet be determined whether the enemy will move on that road. They are now advancing on this. They are as yet but a short distance from the fork.

J. WHEELER,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

March 17, 1865—11.10 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The enemy marched a short distance up the Raleigh road, skirmishing with the Eighth Texas, but have advanced farther on this road. The indications are that the advance will be upon this road.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,

Elevation, March 17, 1865—4 p. m.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Allen reports at 1 p. m. that the enemy are advancing on his road and that he was skirmishing with them four miles from the bridge over Black River, on which he crossed last night. The Raleigh and Wilmington road does not cross the Smithfield road at Elevation, as laid down on the maps, but two miles beyond toward Smithfield. General Hardee's headquarters to-night will be about a mile beyond the intersection toward Smithfield.

Very respectfully,

T. B. ROY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,

*Willis Cole's House, on Goldsborough Road,**Three Miles southwest of Bentonville. March 17, 1865—6.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,

Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to say that as the position of the enemy's cavalry has not been sufficiently defined, he fears that they may have moved up on the west side of the Cape Fear River, endeavoring to strike at our wagon trains or at the railroad at Raleigh. The two regiments which were left west of the Cape Fear River should, he thinks, give information of such a movement, and Crews' brigade ought before this time to have been in a position to protect the trains or Raleigh.

Have you any information of Dibrell's trains, which, when last heard from were two days behind yours, or of Butler's, which were ordered

from Charlotte to Raleigh? Have you any information from the enemy's cavalry? Can you do anything to insure the safety of the trains? General Hampton thinks that the enemy is marching on Goldsborough, and that his right will strike the Wilmington railroad at or below Faison's Depot. Butler is to-night at Blackman Lee's, on the Clinton and Smithfield road, about six miles from this point. General Hampton will unite Dibrell with him to-morrow. He desires you, after you have sufficiently covered General Hardee's movements, to send all the cavalry you can spare to join him on the Smithfield and Goldsborough road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Draughan's Cross-Roads, March 17, 1865—7 a. m.

Major McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

You will please inform General Hampton that a scout who went inside of the enemy's picket last night to recover the body of one of his men, reports that they saw two large camps, both on the Goldsborough road—the farthest camp from Graham's Bridge was about two miles, the other between that and the bridge. The Yankees told all the citizens that they would move on the Goldsborough road this morning. The scout thinks there is a brigade of cavalry in front; that they saw a great many horses in the camps. A great many were straggling in the country around camps. Our captures yesterday, about 40. Loss, 1 killed, and 1 lieutenant missing.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

P. S.—I understand the Third Alabama has gone on the Smithfield road. Shall I send a regiment on that road?

G. G. D.

HEADQUARTERS WILLIAMS' BRIGADE,
March 17, 1865.

Col. G. G. DIBRELL:

COLONEL: I inclose a dispatch from Captain Howell, which I received late last night. By the "straight forward" road he means the Stallings Bridge road. Jackson's is the intersection of the Clinton road with the Goldsborough and Graham's Bridge road, six miles from the picket base, and is the road which the Second South Carolina picketed yesterday.

Respectfully,

W. C. P. BRECKINRIDGE,
Colonel, &c.

[Inclosure.]

MARCH 16, 1865.

COLONEL: My scouts on the straight forward road found the enemy camped at, or near, the mill, and on the right and left as far as they could see. The scouts on the left-hand road found the enemy camped

at, or near, Mr. Jackson's. They came in that road this side of Jackson's this evening, and went in that direction. There are several roads leading out to the left, this side of Jackson's. My pickets cover the first road.

J. L. HOWELL,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Hodges, March 17, 1865—7 a. m.

Lieutenant HARDEE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that after crossing the river I moved out six miles on the Smithfield road, and went into camp. I have sent scouts to Draughan's Cross-Roads, and to all the points on the river until it gets as low as the point at which it is intersected by Mingo Creek. None of these scouts have as yet reported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, on Smithfield Road, March 17, 1865—11.15 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that the enemy's cavalry have made their appearance in my front on this road; force not yet ascertained. I am moving down to meet them. I am about twenty miles from Smithfield, on the New Cut road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, March 17, 1865—2.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to say that an officer from my picket, which is four miles from the bridge near which I crossed last night on this road, reports that he saw men with knapsacks, but I am of opinion that the force which has been skirmishing with my picket there are all mounted—perhaps mounted infantry. Firing having been heard in direction of the bridge where the Averagesborough and Smithfield road crosses Black River, I shall retire my main body on this road, so as to prevent the enemy gaining my rear in the event of his crossing at that bridge, but shall leave my picket in its present position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, March 17, 1865—6 p. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY, *Assistant Adjutant-General*:

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that until about 4 p. m. I occupied the line which I took up this morning about five miles from the bridge near which I crossed last night. The enemy has skirmished with my pickets pretty constantly since 11 a. m. This afternoon a dismounted force charged, but failed to drive the reserve picket from its position. Having heard that the infantry had probably crossed Mingo Creek, I shall go into camp on the east side of it. I shall have a sufficiency of forage for the night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, March 17, 1865—6 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that your communication dated 7.10 a. m., stating that General Wheeler would move back toward Elevation, and directing me to communicate with you, was not received until about two hours ago. Until that time I had occupied a line about five miles from the bridge on which Colonel Ashby crossed Black River last evening. The enemy has skirmished with the regiment I had on picket, since about 11 a. m., but has failed to drive it from its position. About an hour since they charged it with a dismounted line. I am disposed to think it was nothing but cavalry. I have crossed Mingo Creek and shall encamp to-night on the eastern side of it. The position is a very strong one against small-arms. Crossing it, however, leaves open a road running on the west side of it to the road you are on, and intersecting it, I imagine, in your rear. At present my regiment on picket is more than two miles in advance of this road; and should you inform me to-night that your position is in advance of the point at which it intersects the road you are on, I will direct the officer commanding the picket to notify you, should he have to uncover it. I am informed that General Hardee has reached the point at which this road intersects the Wilmington and Raleigh road, about five miles in rear of this position. My headquarters for the night will be in the woods near my camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
On Averasborough and Goldsborough Road,
March 17, 1865—12.40 p. m.

Maj. Gen. M. C. BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to inform you that he will be with Dibrell's division to-night at the intersection of this road with the road from Fayetteville to Smithfield. He will have pickets sta-

tioned at Blackman Lee's Store on the latter road, and on this road also. He desires to hear from you to know where you have your command, and what information you have of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
McLain's Cross-Roads, March 17, 1865—3 p. m.

[Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN:]

MAJOR: I sent you a dispatch at 1 p. m. by a party of Colonel Dibrell's scouts, giving my position and stating that the enemy had reached Cobb's Mill, six miles to my rear, and that I had taken a prisoner from the Fifteenth Corps, who said that his corps was ordered to take the right at Ray's Store. I have since taken two prisoners from same corps who says that two divisions of his corps is to march toward Rob. Lee's Store (where they were taken). I have moved my command across the Big Cohera, near Blackman Lee's, where I will await orders. The enemy was in three miles of Clinton yesterday evening.

Respectfully, &c.,

M. C. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salisbury, March 17, 1865

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Just arrived here. Owing to great scarcity supplies, high water, and bad roads, had to cross at different ferries along Pedee. About 200 Butler's cavalry, left with me, crossed at Stanback's; Black's regiment, 300 strong, at Christian's; 150 men of Fifth Tennessee at ferries above. Gaillard's battery and Kirk's battalion are now crossing at Stokes' Ferry, with orders to march to Lexington. I shall await your orders before I move them from Lexington. All the others are ordered to Raleigh. I would like to visit you at Raleigh. The condition of affairs in South Carolina compels me to send Colonel Colcock, Third South Carolina Cavalry, back, three squadrons of his regiment having been left in Orangeburg. An efficient officer of rank, fully empowered, should be sent to South Carolina [to] suppress insurrection, capture marauders, and encourage agriculture. Two regiments of Yankee cavalry dashed into Florence on the 5th, but were driven ten miles by a portion of Fifth Tennessee and a squadron of Colcock's cavalry.

B. H. ROBERTSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

Brig. Gen. B. H. ROBERTSON,
Salisbury:

Dispatch received. General Johnston directs you recall Colcock's regiment to rejoin your brigade. Troops have been provided for South Carolina. Bring on your brigade to unite with this army, reporting progress by telegraph.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—8.45 a. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding, &c. :

GENERAL: General Johnston desires you will at once have an intrenchment thrown up near Goldsborough, so as to enable the brigade you have there to detain the enemy as long as possible, should they advance from Kinston. Such a work would certainly gain us time. It might be well to send your negro force there by rail to labor upon it.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 17, 1865.

Major-General HOKE,
Commanding :

General commanding directs me to say that information from General Hardee last night tends to the belief he has fallen back before the enemy to within six or eight miles of your front. You will have your command well in hand, ready to move forward at a moment's notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 17, 1865—9 p. m.*

Major-General HOKE,
Commanding :

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you be ready to march early in the morning. Your note of this afternoon received. The field return sent up this morning was in response to General Johnston's call, and he wants one such semi-weekly, say on Mondays and Fridays. I am not advised that the regular tri-monthly returns to be forwarded to the War Department are to be dispensed with.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Maj. J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta :

MAJOR: General Beauregard directs that yourself and Colonel Roman will remain in Augusta to inspect and hasten forward to the front troops and supplies. Major Bryan, assistant inspector-general, will repair to Chester or Winnsborough, S. C., for the purpose of performing similar service. Upon the receipt of this communication, should you be this side of Augusta, en route to this point, yourself and Colonel Roman will come to Chester and there execute the instructions above given. In this event Major Bryan, assistant inspector-general, will repair to this point and perform the duty before assigned him at Chester. I inclose herewith copy of order given Major McCrady, engineer, in relation to the repair of railroad, and one to General

Lee,* directing disposition to be made of a portion of wagon-train of the Army of Tennessee. See that they are executed. Please extend this order to Colonel Roman and Major Bryan. The remainder of the staff you will order to rejoin the general without delay, wherever he may be.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Major MCCRADY, *Engineer, &c.:*

MAJOR: General Beauregard directs that you push on rapidly repairs of roads from Chester to Georgia road, via Winnsborough, Alston, Abbeville, and Washington. You will report weekly progress.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. B. D. FRY, *Augusta, Ga.:*

GENERAL: General Beauregard instructs me to inquire why the extension of the courier-line, directed to be made from Columbia to Winnsborough, has not been done. Important messages have been delayed at Winnsborough in consequence of this failure. He desires the line before mentioned put into operation at once.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Maj. ALLEN J. GREEN, *Chester:*

Important dispatches for Augusta delayed at Winnsborough, courier-line not having been extended from Columbia to that point as ordered. Send at once, and have them sent through to Columbia, thence by courier-line to Augusta. Act promptly and report. Direct Captain Ward to put himself in communication with these headquarters, that he may receive orders.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. P. M. B. YOUNG, *Augusta, Ga.:*

General Fry has been ordered to extend his courier-line to Winnsborough to connect with telegraph. This has not been done. See to it at once and report.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—4 p. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Send forward troops, artillery, and wagons rapidly as possible, sending horses along railroad, to be taken up on cars whenever practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Stop all artillery without horses at Greensborough. Send on all artillery horses.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Abstract from field return of Hoke's division for March 17, 1865. (a)

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.				Heavy.	Field.
Staff.....	14	.....	.....	14	15	.....	.....
Hagood's brigade.....	79	890	949	1, 110	4, 799	.....	.....
Nethercutt's brigade (Junior Reserves).....	92	1, 121	1, 135	1, 261	2, 848	.....	.....
Kirkland's brigade.....	77	975	1, 016	1, 124	2, 553	.....	.....
Colquitt's brigade.....	114	1, 052	1, 118	1, 300	2, 595	.....	.....
Clingman's brigade.....	49	556	557	638	2, 771	.....	.....
Light artillery battalion.....	32	657	782	842	1, 039	.....	41
Grand total.....	457	5, 231	5, 557	6, 289	16, 640	.....	41

a Colonel Whitford's command of the Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth North Carolina Regiments now belong to Hoke's division, but being at Goldsborough only an approximate estimate of the force can be given. The Sixth North Carolina Cavalry is also at Goldsborough and Kinston. The Second South Carolina Cavalry is now moving to Goldsborough. We have no report from the cavalry. The Fifty-sixth North Carolina Regiment, Kirkland's brigade, and Tenth North Carolina Battalion are with General Hardee. Sixty-seventh North Carolina Regiment, about 700; Sixty-eighth North Carolina Regiment, about 300; total, 1,000.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Smithfield, March 17, 1865.*

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB, *Goldsborough:*

COLONEL: Your dispatch of 16th instant per courier is received, saying that you will move at daylight this morning to the Goldsborough front as ordered. You will observe that the numerous applications from your regiment for furloughs to dismounted men are returned disapproved. There is an act of Congress, not yet published, providing for all cavalry horses to be turned over to the Government at valuation, and the men to be afterward kept mounted at public expense. I am almost sure there is such a law recently passed, though it is not yet promulgated in orders. You were authorized from this place a few days ago to cause impressments to be made to the Fayetteville front under certain restrictions. The authority is renewed wherever you may be, under same restrictions. It has also been granted to your quartermaster as to mules for your train, by indorsement upon his

application of 4th instant, received and returned to-day. The general is still unwilling the command should be dispersed to the rear upon such impressments. Until your dismounted men are remounted would it not be well for them to act as infantry in concert with those now defending Goldsborough?

Very respectfully, colonel,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough:*

The general commanding directs me to say to you that under orders from army headquarters, Captain James, assistant engineer, with a negro force, has been ordered to proceed immediately to Goldsborough to throw up intrenchments, with the view to defending the place against the advance reported by you. You will make your arrangements to hold it as long as it can be made tenable, and proceed with removing supplies under former orders.

Very respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 17, 1865.*

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough, N. C.:*

Your dispatches by train and telegraph received. Captain Chesnut's reports had induced the belief enemy were in force on south side the river. He should keep nearer the enemy and be more accurate in future.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 17, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough:*

Lipscomb was to start to Goldsborough from near South River at dawn this morning, and ought to be there before this. A courier would probably meet him on the Fayetteville road.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *March 18, 1865.*

General BRECKINRIDGE, *Secretary of War, Richmond:*

I cannot possibly consent to the widening of the gauge of North Carolina road east of Salisbury. It will be ruinous to the State and I can see no real necessity for it. Please stop it until the matter can be consulted upon.

Z. B. VANCE.

[MARCH 18, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations in North Carolina, see Part I, p. 1046.]

SMITHFIELD, *March 18, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE :

The troops will be united to-day, except two divisions of Cheatham's corps not yet arrived. Effective totals, infantry and artillery: Bragg, 6,500; Hardee, 7,500; Army of Tennessee, 4,000. Should Sherman move by Weldon would you prefer my turning to Clarksville? Lieutenant-General Hardee's loss on 16th was 450. Prisoners taken the next day report the enemy's about 3,300.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 18, 1865.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

There are no flat-cars here at present. They will be sent as soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 18, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Operator at Banks', twelve miles south this place, should be informed in time of approach of enemy in this direction. Please give necessary orders.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, *March 18, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. JOHN M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Upon the Wilmington and Weldon, the Petersburg, and the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroads there are probably nineteen efficient locomotives and 150 cars. These are engaged in transportation upon their respective roads and, to a certain extent, in assisting the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad. Their services are necessary for collecting the supplies of the sections of country into which they lead, which supplies are eventually forwarded to the Army of Northern Virginia, except so far as necessary for the support of the cavalry stationed in the vicinity of Stony Creek. If the enemy occupy Raleigh this equipment would be in great danger if he moves in the direction of Weldon. The consideration of the question as to the orders I am to give to the superintendents of these several roads I respectfully submit to the commanding general.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. ROBINSON,
Military Superintendent of Railroads.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
Raleigh, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Respectfully referred to General Jos. E. Johnston for his orders.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,

Smithfield, N. C., March 18, 1865—6.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Johnston directs that you put your command in motion for Bentonville by the shortest route, unless the enemy are advancing in force up the Averasborough and Smithfield road; in that case, on receiving prompt notice from you, all our columns could be turned on that force. The sheriff of this county represents that there is a road leading from a point two miles this side of Elevation and striking the Averasborough and Goldsborough road a little to the west of Bentonville. The troops here are moving directly on Bentonville, and General Johnston desires you to be immediately on their right. Please give information to General Wheeler and desire him to make frequent reports.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Any incumbrances in your trains, &c., not necessary to field operations, should be sent to the railroad.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,

Smithfield, March 18, 1865—7.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Johnston desires that you will not take your reserve artillery with you in the expedition on foot, but send it to the neighborhood of this place. In respect of baggage, you should move as light as possible.

Very respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,

March 17 [18?], 1865—8.50 a. m.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Your order directing me to put my command in motion immediately for Bentonville has just been received. It will be promptly obeyed, but I am ignorant of the road you designate, and that must first be found. I have instructed Wheeler to report the movements of the enemy both to you and to me. Inform me whenever General Johnston changes his headquarters.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR BENTONVILLE, *March 18, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

General HARDEE:

General Johnston desires you will report immediately where you are encamped to-night, giving the distance from this place. Dispatch is

important. It is of great consequence that you should be here as early as possible to-morrow morning. Please say at what hour you went into camp.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SNEED'S HOUSE, *March 18, 1865—9.50 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: This house is five miles from Bentonville. My command is about a mile in rear. I shall start at 4 o'clock, so as to reach Bentonville at an early hour in the morning. I did not reach camp till after dark, but if it be necessary I can start my command at an earlier hour. Major Poole, who will deliver this dispatch, will give you all the news respecting the enemy.

Respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, N. C., March 18, 1865—6.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-General STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: General Johnston directs that you immediately put your command in motion for Bentonville. General Bragg's troops will be four or five miles ahead of you on the same road.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Bentonville, March 18, 1865—11 p. m.

Lieutenant-General STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee encamps to-night about six miles from here, and will move for this place at 3 o'clock in the morning. General Johnston desires you will have your command put quietly under arms at dawn to-morrow. The wagon trains will not move beyond this place. Lieutenant-General Hampton reports the enemy encamped to-night on the Averasborough and Goldsborough road, three miles west of the point at which the road we are on enters it.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Bragg.)

HEADQUARTERS,
March 18, 1865—7 a. m.

General HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your dispatch, covering one from General Wheeler, was received this morning. The Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps advanced yesterday to Averasborough and moved out about two miles on the

Smithfield and Raleigh roads, but retired back to Averagesborough in the afternoon. If your information be correct that the Seventeenth and Fifteenth Corps are moving on Goldsborough, we may reasonably conclude that the force at Averagesborough will move to-day in the same direction. I can't think that two corps would move on Raleigh; if so, General Johnston will concentrate and whip them. General Wheeler has one regiment on the Raleigh road; the rest of his forces is divided between this road, Smithfield, and the road immediately south of it. Wheeler is on the Smithfield road, Allen on the other. Wheeler's entire force is needed here; indeed, I think it ought to be increased. My headquarters are eight miles from Smithfield, and will not be moved to-day unless the movements of the enemy should render it necessary. I have no news from Richmond or any other points.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 18, 1865—7.40 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON:

Your dispatch of 1.35 a. m. received by Courier Jackson. We will go to the place at which your dispatch was written. The scheme mentioned in my note, which you pronounce practicable, will be attempted. Send all the information you can bearing upon it.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GOLDSBOROUGH AND AVERASBOROUGH ROAD,
Twenty Miles from Goldsborough, March 18, 1865—9 a. m.

General [JOHNSTON:]

I reached General Hampton's headquarters at 12 last night and extended to him your instructions. I urged upon him the necessity of frequent and full dispatches. I will return to-day.

Respectfully,

W. HAMPTON, JR.,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

AT FORKS OF SMITHFIELD AND GOLDSBOROUGH ROADS,
Eighteen Miles from Smithfield, March 18, 1865—11.15 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,

Commanding;

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to inform you that the enemy is advancing in a considerable force of infantry on his position at this place. He has not yet ascertained what corps it is, but the force is large. He has left one regiment at this place to fall back on the road to Smithfield and give you all information. With the main part of his force he will retire on the road toward Goldsborough. He is making dispositions on the field, and has directed me to write and sign this dispatch.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,

One Mile west of Cole's House, March 18, 1865—2.30 p. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I took position at this place, the junction of the Fayetteville and Goldsborough with the Averasborough and Goldsborough roads, two hours ago, and have been skirmishing with the enemy since. I can hold him here for several hours more, and I do not think his advance will get beyond this point to-night. One regiment was sent on the Smithfield road; with directions to watch the enemy and report all his movements to you. He may push one column up that road in hopes of crossing the river above and below Goldsborough at the same time. Wheeler can guard all the roads leading toward Smithfield from west and south, and I have written to him to do so. As soon as he can spare any troops from that duty I wish them to join me. The infantry have not yet reached this point. I have not yet learned the strength of the force opposed to me, nor what force it is, but I hope to get some prisoners soon. I think the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps camped near Beaman's Cross-Roads last night.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,

Lieutenant-General.

I have not communicated with General Hardee since my last dispatch of last night, as I do not know his position, and I suppose you keep him advised of all information.

HEADQUARTERS,

Bentonville, March 18, 1865—11 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,

Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee encamped six miles from here to-night, and will be in motion for this place at 3 o'clock in the morning. General Johnston directs me to inform you that the movement you discussed together will be made as soon after dawn to-morrow as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

March 18, 1865—12.45 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY:

Your dispatch of 9.30 p. m. received. Prisoners captured late yesterday evening state that the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps moved only a short distance yesterday. Some thought their army going to Raleigh, others to Goldsborough. If they move farther on either this or the Raleigh road it will be known at once, and information will be promptly sent you. It is impossible yet to say whether they move out on the Raleigh road simply to get possession of the mills on Stewart's Creek or whether they design moving toward Raleigh. I have sent several dispatches to you since Captain Gilchrist left me.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

March 18, 1865—5.40 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Four of our prisoners escaped from the Fourteenth Corps last night about midnight. They think the enemy are marching toward Goldsborough, and say the Fourteenth Corps crossed Black River at some point below here last night. I have heard of no advance on either this or the Raleigh road this morning. If the enemy do advance toward Raleigh I will notify you immediately.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,

Smithfield, March 18, 1865—6.45 a. m.

[General HARDEE:]

GENERAL: General Johnston directs that you put your command immediately in motion for Bentonville by the shortest route, unless the enemy are advancing in force up the Averagesborough and Smithfield road; in that case, on receiving prompt notice from you, all our columns could be turned on that force. The sheriff of this county represents that there is a road leading from a point two miles this side of Elevation and striking the Averagesborough and Goldsborough road a little to the west of Bentonville. The troops here are moving directly on Bentonville, and General Johnston desires you to be immediately on their right. Please give information to General Wheeler and desire him to make frequent reports.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,

In the Field, Four Miles from Elevation, March 18, 1865.

[General WHEELER:]

GENERAL: General Hardee desires that you will make reports to him and also to General Johnston direct.

Respectfully,

D. H. POOLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

*Smithfield and Averagesborough Road, near Black River,**March 18, 1865—10.40 a. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,

Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am just in receipt of your dispatch, through General Hardee, directing me to report the movements of the enemy direct to you as well as to others of my superior officers. My present information is that the day after fighting General Hardee the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps moved up to Averagesborough. The Twentieth

moved up the Raleigh road as far as Stewart's Creek and put some mills to work. The Fourteenth turned to the right and crossed Black River at a point nearly east of Averasborough. The Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps are on the right of the Fourteenth, and, I hear, have crossed Black River. Kilpatrick's cavalry is, I think, with the Fourteenth Corps. I am certain it was near that corps yesterday. I have pickets on the Raleigh road, and no move has been reported on that road this morning. I shall soon hear which way the Twentieth Corps moved after reaching Stewart's Creek. Some of my scouts, who were in Fayetteville day before yesterday, report that all of the enemy had crossed Cape Fear River and had taken up their pontoon bridge. Some of my men escaped from Fourteenth Corps last night after dark and report that corps did not go into camp until about 10 o'clock. They think Sherman's army is marching toward Goldsborough and not toward Raleigh. The cavalry in front of Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps is, at present, reporting direct to General Hampton and not to me.

With highest regards, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

Averasborough and Smithfield Road, March 18, 1865—10.50 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have just heard from General Allen, who is in front of the Fourteenth Corps on the new road leading to Smithfield, which runs nearly parallel with this road and is three or four miles south of it. He reports the enemy advancing upon him this morning. He captured prisoners from both Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps. Thus far no advance reported on this or the Raleigh road.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

Averasborough and Smithfield Road, March 18, 1865—11.30 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Department, &c.:

GENERAL: Scouts just in report that portion of the Twentieth Corps which moved up to Stewart's Creek on the Raleigh road have returned to Averasborough. I presume it will turn off and cross Black River at the same point the Fourteenth Corps crossed it. By crossing at that point they can go either to Smithfield or Goldsborough.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
March 18, 1865—2.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to inform you that he is in line on the Averasborough and Goldsborough road near Mr. Willis Cole's house, which is about eighteen miles from Smithfield and three miles from Bentonville.

He is expecting an attack by the enemy. He desires you to send all the cavalry you can spare over this way to guard all the roads which lead from this road to the Averasborough and Smithfield road. Please notify him of your position and operations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN.

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
March 18, 1865—8 a. m.

Major McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

You will please inform General Hampton that my scouts met the advance of the enemy (mounted) just beyond the Clinton road, charged and drove them back more than a mile upon a column of infantry on the road we came yesterday. They are now skirmishing with my pickets at the Clinton road, about one mile in front of this position. I have heard a few guns in the direction of the road General Butler is upon.

Very respectfully, &c.,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, &c.

[Indorsement.]

ON ROAD, *March 18, 1865—8.45 a. m.*

Respectfully forwarded.

This may be the column which engaged General Hardee, or it is one thrown from the Fayetteville and Goldsborough road. A good opportunity to strike them in flank now offers. There is a road from Smithfield by Bentonville to this road.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
March 18, 1865—9.15 p. m.

Major McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I inclose you reports of Colonel Breckinridge's scouts. Major Austin reports further that he saw a boy who said he came through the enemy's camps this p. m. on the road upon which we traveled, and that they were camped for three miles back. The regiment upon the Smithfield road reports that a few of the enemy had crossed Stony Creek at Lee's Bridge, and that they were busily engaged at work on the bridge as if trying to repair it. I have ordered them to send out scouts during the night and report the exact locality of this camp.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS WILLIAMS' BRIGADE,
March 18, 1865—5 a. m.

Col. G. G. DIBRELL,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

A scout of the First Kentucky has just returned, having been gone since 9 o'clock last night. They report the enemy camped in large force at the junction of the Goldsborough and Smithfield roads where we put up rail-works yesterday. He thinks the encampment extends about a mile up the Smithfield road, the same distance in this direction, and back beyond where we first formed yesterday.

Respectfully,

WM. C. P. BRECKINRIDGE,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS WILLIAMS' BRIGADE,
March 18, 1865—7.30 p. m.

[Col. G. G. DIBRELL:]

COLONEL: Lieutenant-Colonel Griffith, First Kentucky, has just returned with his regiment. He reports that he found the enemy encamped at the forks of the Smithfield and Goldsborough roads, near the last rail-works occupied this evening by the Ninth Kentucky, on horseback. He thinks that it is not a general encampment of a corps; but the force was far too strong to be attacked by his regiment. He saw no signs of infantry having passed that point coming this way. He left one company under Captain Johnson with instructions to remain until he could learn the probable force and intentions of the enemy.

8 p. m.—Captain Johnson has returned. He thinks the encampment reported by Colonel Griffith consists of not more than 1,500 or 2,000 men. His movements being discovered, and a column of cavalry pursuing, he was forced to retire without further information. I have ordered another scout to attempt to go completely around the encampment.

8.15 o'clock.—Major Austin has returned with his regiment. He reports that he traveled a road running parallel with the Goldsborough road, which we traveled to-day about a mile from it, and intersecting the Smithfield road near where it leaves the Goldsborough road. He found an extensive encampment at the place reported by Colonel Griffith. He learned from citizens living in the vicinity, and one who passed through the camp, that it consists of one corps, and Yankee soldiers told the citizens their destination was Smithfield.

Respectfully,

WM. C. P. BRECKINRIDGE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
March 18, 1865—3.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to say that I did not in my dispatch of last evening intend to say that the enemy's infantry had crossed Mingo

Creek. I said "hearing that the infantry had crossed," &c., and meant our infantry. The creek I have been skirmishing on to-day is three miles in front of Mingo. Finding this evening that the road from Stallings Bridge to Smithfield was open, I have sent a squadron to Draughan's Cross-Roads to picket that road. There is no other force on it. Colonel Dibrell did at one time cover this road, but it seems has moved farther to the left.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS YOUNG'S CAVALRY BRIGADE,
March 18, 1865.

Major PRESTON:

Ashby has just returned and reports the enemy encamped principally beyond and around Blackman Lee's Store; also a small camp about two miles this side, where the Goldsborough road leaves the road from Lee's to this place, with pickets a short distance this side the latter camp. The scouts sent out for prisoners have not returned yet.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. J. WRIGHT.
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 18, 1865.

Brig. Gen. Louis Hébert, chief engineer of the department, will proceed immediately with his personal staff to Weldon, N. C., and superintend the construction of the important defenses there. On his arrival there he will make immediate inspection and report upon the condition and progress of the work.

By order of General Bragg:

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 18, 1865—6.55 a. m.*

Major-General HOKE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you immediately put your command en route for Bentonville.

Very respectfully,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA
Bentonville, March 18, 1865—9 p. m.

Major-General HOKE:

The commanding general directs that you have your command ready to move at daylight to-morrow morning.

Respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 18, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. B. STARR:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you detach a four-gun battery of your reserve battalion, and send to Cox's Bridge, on Neuse River, to cross to north side and report there to Col. J. N. Whitford, for defense of the bridge against enemy's approach from direction of Fayetteville. Let the battery start at daylight in the morning.

Very respectfully,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Bentonville, March 18, 1865.

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough*:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you send the whole of Whitford's command to Cox's Bridge, on the Neuse, immediately, instructing him to take position to defend the bridge to the last against the approach of Sherman's forces from direction of Fayetteville. A four-gun battery will be started there at dawn in the morning to report to him. Against cavalry or a small force of infantry it can be successfully held, but if driven away he must destroy the bridge at all hazards and bring off his command. You must rely on the cavalry alone to oppose the enemy approaching from Kinston. Lipscomb asks for 400 sabers. They will be sent from Raleigh by rail, if you telegraph the ordnance officer there that it will be safe to do so.

Very respectfully,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Bentonville, March 18, 1865—9 p. m.

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough*:

Send Whitford's entire command immediately to Cox's Bridge, directing him to take position there to defend against enemy approaching from toward Fayetteville. He will prepare the bridge to be destroyed when it can no longer be held. A battery will be sent to him from here in morning early.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 18, 1865—7.10 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. ARNOLD ELZEY,
Augusta, Ga.:

(From Winnsborough by courier-line.)

General Johnston orders that the light batteries not brought here and not required for the defense of Augusta be collected at Macon, where you will establish your headquarters and reorganize and re-equip your batteries.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 18, 1865.*

Capt. THOMAS R. SHARP,
Assistant Quartermaster, Salisbury:

Hawkins, president of Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, will not be able to assist you. Communicate with Captain Robinson at this place.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 19, 1865—1 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield:

Train just left with ammunition called for.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,

In the Field, March 19, 1865—1.30 p. m. (Received 2 p. m.)

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding:

GENERAL: General Stewart desires me to say that the enemy attacked the right and center of our line at 12.45 p. m. and were easily repulsed. The heaviest attack was made on Stovall's brigade.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. F. SEVIER,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of Clayton's division, Lee's corps, Maj. Gen. Henry D. Clayton, C. S. Army, commanding, for March 19, 1865.

Command	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent. (a)
	Officers.	Men.			
General and staff.....	4	—	—	4	8
Stovall's brigade.....	35	363	341	474	2,194
Baker's brigade.....	48	455	438	605	2,243
Jackson's brigade.....	7	121	108	174	3,014
Total (division).....	94	939	887	1,257	7,459

a Ninety-nine officers and 1,641 men, prisoners of war, all included in aggregate present and absent.

H. D. CLAYTON,
Major-General.

ON ROAD, *March 19, 1865—12.45 p. m.*
(Received 1.45 p. m.)

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: With one regiment I am trying to get to Wheeler, or on the flank of the enemy. Butler is on the road behind you, and a

part of Dibrell's command. Stewart wrote just now that the enemy attacked him. Taliaferro is just going in. I think whatever we do should be done quickly. An advance of the line would break them, I think.

Yours, very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Wilmington and Raleigh Road, March 19, 1865—11.30 a. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I arrived here with Allen's and Ashby's commands. I find the enemy have pickets on this road between Mill Creek and Stone Creek. I learn that Stone Creek is of difficult crossing; that it can be crossed at but one point, and then only by single file. I fear that Mill Creek is so full that it cannot be forded. I will try to secure the bridges before the enemy destroys them.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 19, 1865—1.10 p. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: On reaching Stone Creek I found a few Yankees on south side. I crossed with my advance and captured one prisoner from Twentieth Corps. He states that Twentieth Corps was moving on road from Averbosborough in direction of Goldsborough, and that the Fourteenth Corps was in front on same road, fighting. When he left his corps it was corduroying the road.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

3 P. M.

General JOHNSTON:

Within just handed me by courier, who says he can't find General Hampton, as the latter has gone to General W[heeler]. I suppose it makes no difference.

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Clinton and Smithfield Road, March 19, 1865—3 p. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: My orders were to attack the enemy on this road when the troops on the Goldsborough and Averbosborough road attacked. I have found great difficulty in crossing Stone Creek, but on hearing firing on the Goldsborough road I moved a small force across and attacked and

drove in the enemy's pickets. I have heard but little firing in your direction, and now can hear none at all. Please give me information from time to time what to do. Soon as I get my troops across I shall move on. The ford is growing worse and worse, and citizens inform me that if many troops cross it will become impassable. The force at Dismal Cross-Roads being still there this morning, I have been forced to keep a strong picket on the road leading in that direction.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Smithfield and Clinton Road, March 19, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: A prisoner just brought in, belonging to Kilpatrick's cavalry, reports that his command moved from Dismal Cross-Roads this morning in direction of the Widow Peacock's house, on the Clinton road, which is south from Dismal Cross-Roads. When he was captured he supposed the head of the column had reached Widow Peacock's house.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—At Widow Peacock's house the enemy could turn off and go in direction of Bentonville or Goldsborough.

BENECIA [?], *March 19, 1865—9 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 5 p. m. is just received. I wish that you would leave sufficient force to hold the bridge on Clinton and Smithfield road and bring the rest of your command to Bentonville at as early an hour in the morning as you can. Guard the roads leading to Bentonville. We drove the enemy one mile and a half to-day, capturing four guns, and General Johnston proposes to maintain his position to-morrow. Send out your best scouts to get information. I shall be to-night near where the battery was to-day.

Respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
March 19, 1865.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: Scouts have just brought in two prisoners from Fifteenth Corps, captured on Cox's Bridge road, about one mile and a half above this point. They report that their corps is marching on the road to our right. They have also brought in two prisoners from Fourteenth Corps. They report that their corps is in front of our infantry line on this road, and the Twentieth Corps is in rear of it.

Very respectfully, &c.,

M. C. BUTLER,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
 March 18, 1865—10 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded.

The bridge spoken of is the one destroyed by me to-day on Smithfield road. The encampment is at the intersection of Smithfield and Clinton with Averborough and Goldsborough roads.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LOGAN'S BRIGADE,
 March 19, 1865.

Major PRESTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Butler's Division:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I met the head of the enemy's column at a point about two miles and a half from the point at which I left you. I drove their advance guard in upon their column, about one mile and a half from the point at which I met them, capturing two animals. I have formed my line at the fork of the road (two miles and a half from you). I could not take the command farther with safety, as the enemy have also appeared on the left road. General Howard and staff was charged by my advance, or so they announced themselves, upon being met suddenly at a bend in the road. Some of the prisoners that have been taken report the Twentieth Corps in my front, advancing. I have struck nothing but mounted men so far. I have taken steps to learn whether the Twentieth Corps is here, and will inform you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

T. M. LOGAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Brig. Gen. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON, *Salisbury:*

Take immediate steps to have 300 negroes impressed and turned over to Capt. Thomas R. Sharp, engaged in widening gauge of railroad. Captain Sharp is in Salisbury. Communicate with him.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BENTONVILLE, March 20, 1865.

General R. E. LEE:

Our cavalry reporting that the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps were moving by the Averborough and Goldsborough road, and the Fifteenth and Seventeenth by that from Fayetteville, I concentrated our troops here yesterday morning and attacked the enemy about 3 p. m.; routed him, capturing three guns; but a mile in rear he rallied upon fresh troops. We were able to press all back slowly until 6, when receiving fresh troops, apparently, he attempted the offensive, which we resisted without difficulty until dark. This morning he is intrenched. Our loss was small. The troops behaved extremely well. Dense thickets prevented rapid operations.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
March 20, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

I can but express my hearty congratulations at your victory of the 19th. It was skillfully planned and boldly executed. The gratification it will give to the country will be equaled by the gratification which will be felt for yourself and the brave army that achieved it.

R. E. LEE.

SMITHFIELD STATION, *March 20, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I send dispatch from Major Ayer, from Augusta. Did you receive cipher dispatch from Richmond sent to you yesterday by one of General Bragg's couriers? Gist's brigade is expected to-day. I received no instructions in regard to movement of troops from this place. If you have any to give please inform me. I requested commanding officer of Lowry's brigade to arrest and convey to front all stragglers he may find on his march.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES COOPER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR BENTONVILLE, *March 20, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

Captain COOPER, *Smithfield:*

Send all troops of Army of Tennessee this way as soon as they arrive, not to march, however, after night.

ARCHER ANDERSON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 20, 1865—a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Smithfield, N. C.:*

General Elzey has reported for orders from Augusta. I have ordered him to Macon with all light batteries not required for the defense of Augusta. Do you intend that he shall supersede General Cobb?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR BENTONVILLE,
March 20, 1865—4.30 p. m.

General BEAUREGARD, *Raleigh:*

General Elzey's being sent to Macon in command of artillery will not interfere with General Cobb's local command. Please so inform them. I think it will be better for you to bring up Lee. All artillery without horses, including that which was at Smithfield, should be sent immediately as far as Greensborough.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

SMITHFIELD, *March 20, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

The Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps were yesterday moving on the road from Fayetteville to Goldsborough; the Fourteenth and Twentieth

on that from Averagesborough. We attacked the latter force at 3 p. m.; routed one corps, capturing three guns; but a mile in rear the enemy rallied on fresh troops. We were able to press all back slowly until 6, when, apparently receiving fresh troops, he attempted the offensive, which we resisted without difficulty until dark. Our troops behaved handsomely. This morning enemy was intrenched. We have now the whole army in our front. The Fifteenth Corps, moving from direction of Goldsborough on our left flank and rear, made it necessary to change our front so as to look to the south. There has, so far, been only skirmishing to-day. Please give this information to the governor in my name.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 20, 1865.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Major Willis reports having shipped everything from Salisbury. Shall I await here Lee's arrival? Anything new from the front?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MARCH 20, 1865—6 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON:

If we are to retire to-night would it not be well for me to withdraw the artillery on my line at an early hour and give timely notice, so that every one can be prepared?

Very respectfully,

A. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

HOSPITAL, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
March 20, 1865.

Colonel GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Tennessee:

COLONEL: The wounded number 624. All cases able to walk have been sent off to Smithfield. Unless all the wagons are placed at my disposal the wounded cannot be removed to-day. Inform General Stewart of the fact and give me information what can be done, and what time is allowed for the removal of the wounded.

Respectfully,

JNO. T. DARBY,
Medical Director.

HEADQUARTERS STEWART'S CORPS,
March 20, 1865.

Captain GALE:

Just in front of our line and to the left of it the enemy are busily engaged in felling heavy timber. Nothing of the kind heard on our right. This cutting of timber is either fortifying or cutting a road to our left.

Respectfully,

W. W. LORING,
Major-General.

BENTONVILLE, *March 20, 1865—12.50 p. m.*

(Received 1.30.)

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The reported advance on this place proves to have consisted of a small foraging party. I shall look well to this flank and I have ordered some cavalry to relieve your men at the mill.

Respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Flower's House, March 20, 1865—11.05 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I have formed a dismounted line here very near Flower's house, and can hold the enemy in check till we are flanked out of it. The line is a very short one, however. I have sent General Law back to Bentonville, with instructions to scout all roads running eastwardly from that point.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—Enemy are engaging us very warmly.

MARCH 20, 1865—9.50 a. m.

(Received 10.15 a. m.)

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy's infantry and artillery is advancing rapidly from the direction of Cox's Bridge. He is now about two miles from Flower's house. A few regiments of infantry would check his advance, I think, very materially. Our cavalry is too weak to accomplish much.

I am, colonel, very respectfully,

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

MARCH 20, 1865—3 p. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN:

MAJOR: I have found the right of the enemy's line. It is simply an extension of the line in front of our infantry by skirmishers who are stationary. This extension does not reach very far on this side of the road on which the enemy advanced this morning. I have found another country road, above this one, which leads into the Goldsborough road, and on which there is a good crossing [over] the creek. I have sent a picket to watch it. We are replenishing our ammunition and resting part of the command. I will keep watch on the enemy's right and notify you of any movement.

Respectfully, &c.,

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CUMMING'S BRIGADE,
Bentonville, March 20, 1865. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with orders from the commanding general, my command is at this place (Bentonville).

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. J. HENDERSON,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Serving in General Hardee's command are the Fiftieth North Carolina Regiment (Hoke's division), Tenth North Carolina Battalion, and one regiment Senior Reserves, belonging to Department of North Carolina. These troops were carried to Georgia by me in November, and have been twice ordered by the War Department to rejoin their commands whenever practicable. McDougald's and De Rosset's companies infantry and a battery of artillery, detached by me on leaving Wilmington to obstruct the navigation of the Cape Fear River, fell in with General Hardee at Fayetteville, and are now serving with his command. I respectfully request that these commands be ordered to report to me as soon as consistent with the interest of the service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR BENTONVILLE, March 20, 1865.

General BRAGG:

There is great complaint of the treatment the wounded receive in the rear. General Johnston desires you would send a medical officer of experience in the field to Smithfield, to take charge of the whole matter. This officer will give orders for such changes as may be necessary, in General Johnston's name, and will immediately communicate by telegraph with Capt. J. M. Robinson, engineer in charge railroads, Raleigh, calling for trains to carry off the wounded as fast as possible. Any hospital arrangements at Smithfield and the depot should be of a temporary character.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR BENTONVILLE, March 20, 1865—3 p. m.

General BRAGG:

General Johnston directs me to say that to save time you are authorized, upon any emergency, to call directly upon Major-General McLaws, who has been instructed to obey your call.

ARCHER ANDERSON.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,

In the Field, March 20, 1865—6 p. m.

Memorandum of telegram in reply to Colonel Pool's telegram of 20th, 12.15 p. m., viz: Ordering Whitford's infantry and artillery to Turner's Bridge at once, and thence to join us south of Bentonville; the artillery by orders at Bentonville. Destroy all bridges on Neuse. Cavalry to continue to hold enemy in observation, and report.

JOHN B. SALE,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*RALEIGH, N. C., *March 20, 1865.*

General P. M. B. YOUNG,

Augusta Ga.:

Stragglers and deserters are reported numerous between Columbia and Augusta and Branchville. Arrest and send them forward.

JNO. M. OTEY,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*RALEIGH, N. C., *March 20, 1865.*

Maj. R. J. ECHOLS,

Quartermaster, Charlotte:

Be prepared to ship through to this place by rail all troops arriving at Chester or any other point. Call upon presidents of railroads to render you every assistance.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MARCH 21, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations in North Carolina, &c., see Part I, p. 1046.]

[MARCH 21, 1865.—For Johnston to Lee, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1055.]

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865—3 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,

*Near Bentonville, N. C.:**(Via Smithfield.)*

Brigadier-General Robertson expects his cavalry brigade here to-day. Where shall it be ordered to? I hope Lee will soon be at Chester. Whom will you send to Augusta, McLaws or Wright?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865—9 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. A. ELZEY,

Augusta, Ga.:

General Johnston orders you establish your headquarters at Macon, collecting there all light batteries not required for defense of Augusta, equipping them for the field soon as practicable. General Cobb's command remains as heretofore.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SMITHFIELD STATION, *March 21, 1865—8.45 a. m.*

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Dispatch from Colonel Sale of 6 p. m. was received by me at 2 a. m. this morning. The operator at Goldsborough was called repeatedly, but did not answer until daylight. At 2.20 a. m. I sent copy by couriers, as you directed, to Colonel Whitford, at or near Cox's Bridge. The courier has not returned yet. Over 200 prisoners arrived here last night. In absence of instructions I shall send them by first train to Raleigh and telegraph General Beauregard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. COOPER,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD STATION, *March 21, 1865—3.25 p. m.*

[Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General:]

COLONEL: Dispatch was received from General Bragg's headquarters at 2 p. m. addressed to Colonel Pool, at Goldsborough, directing his movements in case of evacuation of that place, &c. Communication with Goldsborough ceased just previous to receipt of dispatch. The last dispatch to operator said Yankees were in three miles of town. It is supposed the office is closed or the line cut. I found an intelligent courier belonging to General Wheeler's escort company and sent dispatch to Goldsborough by him directing him to cross Little River and proceed down left bank in direction of Goldsborough, but to strike the Weldon railroad a couple of miles above the town; to be cautious, and destroy dispatch in case of capture.

Respectfully, &c.,

JAS. COOPER,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,

March 21, 1865—10.25 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: It has just been reported to me that the enemy's infantry are advancing on General Taliaferro's extreme right, threatening to turn his flank.

ALEX. P. STEWART,

Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS McLAWS' DIVISION,

March 21, 1865.

Colonel ROY,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

Sergeant Paysinger has just returned from a scout, and reports as follows: Went to the Goldsborough road about four miles to the left of our infantry, near a mill, and found the Second Division of the Fifteenth Army Corps passing up the road in the direction of the battle-field of

yesterday. Citizens on the road report that the enemy were moving in this same direction all night. Paysinger captured seven prisoners, who confirmed this report. Paysinger will return at once. He left his men on the road. The prisoners report that the Seventeenth Army Corps is on the right, in the direction of Goldsborough, lying in camp.

Respectfully, &c.,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CHEATHAM'S CORPS,
March 21, 1865—5 p. m.

Col. W. D. GALE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Tennessee :

COLONEL: I have just been making disposition of what force I have left. I am from three to five feet apart in single rank. I placed Tyler's brigade beyond the swamp, which does not extend quite to the edge of the field. The enemy is confronting us to the edge of the field, in what force I do not know. I kept Taliaferro's pickets on post; will retain them. There is no cavalry on my right that I can find, and I made search. The enemy can come in there with impunity.

Very respectfully,

WM. B. BATE,
Major-General.

MARCH 21, 1865—6.45 a. m.

General WHEELER,

Commanding, &c. :

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to say that it is reported that the enemy are attempting to cross the swamp on which Colonel Smith is stationed. He desires you to send all of your available men at once to re-enforce Colonel Smith, and to extend to the left, to connect with General Law.

Very respectfully,

H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 21, 1865—2 a. m.

Major MCCLELLAN,

Assistant Adjutant-General :

MAJOR: My scouts have just returned from the right of the enemy's lines. They report no retrograde movement of the enemy; on the contrary, the indications are that he will fight to-day. The scouts penetrated to the Goldsborough road and conversed with men from the Fifteenth Corps, who stated that their commands were on the line in front. I will keep a few men along Mill Creek on the other side in order to notify me of any movement of enemy from the neighborhood of Cox's Bridge across toward Smithfield or Bentonville. I think such a movement would only be attempted with cavalry, if at all.

I am, major, very respectfully,

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Bentonville, March 21, 1865.

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

As soon as you can spare the detachment Sixth North Carolina Cavalry please order them to rejoin regiment near Goldsborough.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS MCLAWS' DIVISION,
March 21, 1865.

General B. BRAGG:

Colonel Prather, commanding the cavalry in my front, reports the enemy passing to my left. I am extending a line of skirmishers to the left to meet the movement. At the time Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon was at my headquarters the movement had not been reported, Colonel Prather having just gone in.

Very respectfully,

L. MCLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, March 21, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Col. S. D. POOL,
Goldsborough:

When forced to evacuate retire up Weldon road. Forward to Colonel Lipscomb following directions: He will assume command of all cavalry; maintain his position in front Goldsborough till forced back by numbers; will have north side Neuse picketed to Cox's Bridge. When obliged to leave Goldsborough cross Little River, destroying bridges in his rear and hold that line, establishing a telegraph office there.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. B. T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

Much suffering among the sick and wounded soldiers for want of hospital accommodations is reported at your post. Have necessary arrangements made immediately to relieve their wants and sufferings.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865.*

Capt. THOMAS R. SHARP,
Assistant Quartermaster, Salisbury:

All horses must march through, except those of officers belonging to the infantry, who are with their proper commands.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865.*

Capt. THOMAS R. SHARP,

Assistant Quartermaster, Salisbury:

Captain Robinson reports that neither the North Carolina Central, the Wilmington and Weldon, nor the Weldon and Petersburg Railroad, will be able to assist you. Call upon General Bradley T. Johnson for labor.

JNO. M. OTEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865.*

Maj. J. B. EUSTIS,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

General Beauregard directs that Major Bryan return to Milledgeville and see to the transportation of troops and supplies; that Colonel Roman return to Augusta and see to the discharge of the same duties. You will make headquarters at Chester and perform similar duties until further orders.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,

Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,

Tallahassee, March 21, 1865.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,

Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Since my letter of the 13th instant, addressed to Lieutenant-General Hardee, forwarding reports of Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry, and recommending his promotion, he has rendered another good service in pursuing a raiding party to within a mile of Saint Augustine and recapturing twenty-four negroes and other stolen property. In addition to the command I could give him if appointed a colonel, the governor of the State, who has heretofore strongly recommended Captain Dickison's promotion, tells me that he can have command of all the State forces in that section of the State. A deputation of citizens of Southern Florida called on me a few days since on other business, but in the course of conversation assured me that Captain Dickison has the entire confidence of the people and that his promotion and assignment to command in that section of the State, of course under the district commander, would give great satisfaction and confidence.

Very respectfully, &c.,

SAM. JONES,

Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,

Tallahassee, March 21, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: We are so greatly in need of funds to pay the troops in this district and to meet the ordinary current expenses of the service, and mail communication with you and with Richmond so very precarious and uncertain, that I send a quartermaster, Major Hamilton, directly to your headquarters for funds. Besides many other outstand-

ing debts, the troops have not been paid since last August. Some of them never have been paid. Major Hamilton will explain the necessity for the funds, and I hope it will be in the power of your chief quartermaster and paymaster to supply him with them, and if you cannot that you will send him immediately to Richmond, or wherever the seat of Government may be, to obtain the funds from the Treasury, through the Quartermaster-General's Department. Indeed, I would prefer that Major Hamilton should go on to Richmond as the regular estimates for funds are there and he has a number of letters to deliver and some other business to transact. Besides the obvious injustice and inconvenience of keeping officers and men out of their pay so long, other serious injury results to the service, for in a country so cut off from other portions of the Confederacy, where desertion is so easy and there are so many temptations to desert, men make the fact of non-payment an excuse, or pretext, for deserting.

Very respectfully,

SAM. JONES,
Major-General, Commanding.

[MARCH 22, 1865.—For Davis to Lee, referring to operations at Bentonville, &c., see Vol. XLIX, Part II.]

NEAR BENTONVILLE, *March 22, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Raleigh:

Send Robertson's brigade to Smithfield to join the army.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield:

What disposition shall be made of stores now here not needed for the immediate use of your army?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield:

Have you any orders for rolling stock of the Wilmington and Weldon and Raleigh and Gaston Railroads?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR BENTONVILLE, *March 22, 1865.*

Maj. W. E. MOORE,
Smithfield:

General Johnston directs that you load all your wagons with subsistence immediately and put them on this side the river on the road Stewart camped on, about where the road to Raleigh turns off. If Captain Crenshaw makes any further difficulty about giving you the wagons after the accompanying order, General Johnston directs that

Colonel Jackson enforce it, and put him in irons if necessary. Load everything else on the cars and remove it to the rear at once, on account of the advances from Goldsborough.

ARCHER ANDERSON.

EN ROUTE, *March 22, 1865—3 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I have McLaws on the road which I learn from Captain Feilden you intended the troops to take. Taliaferro on this wretched road, which I have been working on and pulling wagons through all the morning. If you have no objections I will continue with the wagons on this road and take Taliaferro's division with me. If you approve, please order McLaws forward from his present position at such time as you may judge fit. The road I am on is the road you traveled from Smithfield to Bentonville.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

The wagons on this road must go forward, as they can't be turned back.

W. J. H.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865—3 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE, *Smithfield, N. C.:*

I know nothing positive, but report says railroad stock and sick were saved.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MARCH 22, 1865.

Major-General McLAWS, or
Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

SIRS: The command under General Schofield, consisting of a part of the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Corps, are crossing the Neuse River at Cox's Bridge, about ten miles above Goldsborough (coming to the east side). Two divisions of negroes are already over. We caught fifteen prisoners this morning and turned them over to Capt. D. A. Cogdell, of the Sixty-seventh North Carolina, and I will send this by him. I will still remain here and do my duty.

T. M. PAYSINGER,
Sergeant of Scouts.

HANNAH'S CREEK, *March 22, 1865—7.25 a. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: The new bridge over Mill Creek was not destroyed by the infantry, and it would not burn. General Wheeler threw off the flooring and did all he could to destroy it, but he says it can easily be repaired, and I suppose infantry can cross. The infantry did not cross till sunrise, and the enemy pressed Wheeler up to the bridge. I am preparing the bridge for burning.

Very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HANNAH'S CREEK, *March 22, 1865—5.30 a. m.*

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: The infantry is now across the bridge. After you destroy it keep a few vedettes up and down the creek till all is clear between the creek. There is a ford here. You can order Colonel Dibrell either to this point or he can fall back toward Smithfield. Your note as to the wagon train just received. I should be glad for you to carry out the plan.

Very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON.

ROAD, *March 22, 1865—5.15 p. m.*

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: I wish that you would move your command across the river early in the morning, leaving one brigade to cover the line of march of the infantry. Direct the officer commanding that brigade to report to General Johnston, and when he follows us let him leave small scouting party. I will take Law across the river at once. If Hart's battery is on the road do bring it with you. Allen and Dibrell are on the Clinton road.

Very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Widow Mitchener's, Two Miles from Smithfield,
March 22, 1865—6.45 p. m.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to say that from the information he has received it will be necessary for you to move your command across the river as early as you can to-morrow morning. General Law will move down the river to-night on the river road, and General Hampton desires you to go on the road south of and near to the railroad, which road leads from Smithfield to Goldsborough. He desires you to reach and take position on Moccasin River if you can. General Law will endeavor to take position on the same stream on the river road. He also desires you to have some parties out on the north side of the railroad to observe if the enemy moves in that direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

General Hampton thinks it will be only necessary to keep one regiment on the west side of the Neuse River in rear of our infantry. Let that regiment keep out scouting parties. Cross at Turner's Bridge and take the nearest road to the road leading down the railroad. Bring Hart's battery to this side of the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

KENNEDY'S CROSS-ROADS, *March 22, 1865.*

Col. J. B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Since receiving your dispatch I sent a scout toward Cox's Bridge, which met the enemy about one mile and a half on this side and fired into them. It was his advance guard. My scouts also report the enemy's cavalry flanking me on my left. If this be true I cannot hold the bridges in my front. When I am forced to fall back I will fall back on the two main roads leading from Goldsborough to Smithfield, keeping flankers to my left and on the river road.

T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Colonel, Commanding.

WILSON, *March 22, 1865.*

Col. J. B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I evacuated Goldsborough at 4 p. m. yesterday; reached here at 11 o'clock to-day. Large Yankee force in Goldsborough. I left after enemy entered town. Everything was destroyed that could not be brought off. I will write you full particulars when I reach Tarborough to-morrow.

S. D. POOL,
Colonel, Commanding.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., March 22, 1865.

Lient. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Commanding North Carolina Reserves, Raleigh, N. C.:

Your action in regard to the Reserves is approved.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865—7.10 p. m.*

Capt. C. F. VANDERFORD,
Ordnance Officer, Smithfield:

Dispatch received 7 p. m. Captain Robinson has been ordered to send you the rolling-stock called for. He reports that a train came from Smithfield to day only partially loaded. Please have the correction made. Have trains properly loaded. Prisoners might be placed upon the tops of the cars.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, N. C., *March 23, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE:

Sherman's whole army being intrenched in our front on morning of the 20th we did not attack, but held our position to cover removal of wounded and occupy enemy. There was heavy skirmishing 20th and 21st, and several partial attacks by him handsomely repulsed. Troops of Tennessee army have fully disproved slanders that have been pub-

lished against them. Evening and night of 21st enemy moved toward Goldsborough, where Schofield joined him, and yesterday we came here. Sherman's course cannot be hindered by the small force I have. I can do no more than annoy him. I respectfully suggest that it is no longer a question whether you leave present position; you have only to decide where to meet Sherman. I will be near him.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
March 23, 1865.

General JOS. E. JOHNSTON :

Telegram of 1.30 p. m. received. I am delighted at conduct of Tennessee army. I hope you will be able often to repeat your blow and finally shiver enemy. Still we must meet the question. Where, in your opinion, can we best meet Sherman?

R. E. LEE.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, N. C., *March 23, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE :

I earnestly recommend and ask that Major-General Lovell be ordered to report to me. I regard him equal to our best major-generals. Please reply.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, N. C., *March 23, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Raleigh, N. C. :

Sherman's whole army being intrenched in our front on morning of 20th we did not attack, but held our position to cover removal of wounded and occupy enemy. There was heavy skirmishing 20th and 21st, and several partial attacks by him handsomely repulsed. Troops of Tennessee army have fully disproved slanders that have been published against them. Evening and night of 21st enemy moved toward Goldsborough and yesterday we came here.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—9.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C. :

Have you selected point in our rear for depot of provisions and forage? How much of quantity here shall be retained?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C. :

What amount of provisions, forage, and ammunition shall be kept here? Answer in cipher. Governor Vance says he can send you twenty wagons out of thirty which are hauling Government tithes here, if you so prefer it.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C. :

Gaston railroad bridge is floored for passage of artillery and wagons. An engineer is required to direct construction of approaches thereto. Please order one soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, N. C., *March 23, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Raleigh :

Stores not needed for immediate use should not be accumulated above the quantity that can be removed in two days. Rolling-stock you mention can still be used for General Lee's benefit, can it not?

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

Capt. J. M. GOODMAN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Chester, S. C. :

Have any of General Lee's troops arrived yet at Chester? If so, send them on rapidly as possible.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—8.20 a. m.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Macon :

Brigadier-General Fry will arrange for the absentees, Army of Tennessee, arriving at Augusta.

By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—8.20 a. m.*

Maj. S. R. CHISMAN,
Greensborough :

Let animals march to Hillsborough. Stop artillery at that place. By command of General Beauregard :

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, N. C., *March 23, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

Capt. J. M. ROBINSON,
Raleigh :

Letter 18th to Colonel Otey received. Whenever you are informed that enemy is moving west from Goldsborough remove all trains mentioned west of Raleigh. You will have at least two days' time after notice.

ARCHER ANDERSON.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 68. } *Richmond, March 23, 1865.*

* * * * * * *
XX. Maj. T. B. Venable, assistant adjutant-general, is assigned to duty with Lieut. Gen. T. H. Holmes, commanding Reserves of North Carolina, and will report accordingly.

* * * * * * *
By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS,
No. 8. } *March 23, 1865.*

* * * * * * *
IV. Cumming's brigade will rejoin Stevenson's division.
By order of General Johnston:

KINLOCH FALCONER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.]

HEADQUARTERS,
March 23, 1865.

The army will move to-morrow morning, by the Lewisburg road, to camp two or three miles the other side of the railroad depot. Corps commanders will send staff officers ahead to communicate with Maj. John Johnson, engineers, at Stevens' house by 10 a. m., and learn the ground intended for their troops. At 9 o'clock the Army of Tennessee will lead and be followed by the troops of the Department of North Carolina. Headquarters will be at Richardson's house.

By order of General Johnston:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
March 23, 1865.

The Army of Tennessee will move to-morrow morning in the direction of Lewisburg promptly at 9 o'clock, right in front, Cheatham's corps leading, Lee's corps next, and Stewart's corps in rear. Shortly after leaving an inspector from each corps will report to Lieut. Col. T. F. Sevier, inspector-general, at the head of the column, for instructions, &c.

By command of Lieutenant-General Stewart:

W. D. GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR MOCCASIN CREEK,
March 23, 1865—9.35 a. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a dispatch* just received. Law is on the river road and Wheeler on the middle road with flanking

* Not found as an inclosure.

parties north of the railroad. I shall push on until I get as near the enemy as possible, giving you all information as to their movements and as to the character of the country.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

SOUTH MOCCASIN, *March 23, 1865—12.45 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: I forward a dispatch from Ashby, one of my best scouts. He is very accurate in his information. I shall press and follow the enemy up.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

[Inclosure.]

MARCH 23, 1865—12 m.

Col. G. J. WRIGHT,

Commanding Young's Brigade:

COLONEL: I have just taken three more prisoners of the Fourteenth Corps, which, they say, is certainly moving toward Goldsborough. I presume the force on your front to be simply a strong picket protecting their flank. I am satisfied my report this morning was correct. Your advance is now very near the flank of the enemy's marching column. I have not seen General Logan's scouts since 8 a. m., but hear they are on my left, looking east. I will go down and report when I learn something which may be of importance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. ASHBY.

HEADQUARTERS,

Moccasin Creek, March 23, 1865—8.30 p. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,

Commanding:

GENERAL: I inclose a dispatch from General Wheeler and one from Ashby.* This afternoon I pressed up nearly to the road from Cox's Bridge to Goldsborough, and found everything going to the latter place. We have captured about seventy-five prisoners in all, and they concur in stating that their army is going to Goldsborough. I shall press down to-morrow. Can it be possible that Sheridan is bringing his cavalry here? He was said to have had 6,000 at Charlottesville. If he does come General Lee should send some more to us. He has about 5,000 on the right of his army. We should also have authority to press horses, as many of Butler's men are still dismounted. We need 500 saddles and bridles also.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

*For Wheeler's dispatch, see 5.10 p. m., p. 1459; Ashby's not found.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 23, 1865—11.40 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: A prisoner just sent to the rear states that he belongs to the Fourteenth Corps; that yesterday morning they marched over our works, and finding our troops gone, moved in the direction of Goldsborough, and that the Twentieth Corps went with the Fourteenth. He states that parts of the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps are camped on the Bentonville and Goldsborough road on the southwest side of Neuse River and about three miles from that river. He says that he saw yesterday men belonging to Terry's troops, and understood that Schofield was near Goldsborough. He says the understanding was they would stop and get up supplies before moving forward in force. A courier just reports that some of the enemy have crossed Moccasin Creek, moving toward Smithfield. I will soon ascertain all about it. Colonel Ashby was sent to Moccasin Creek early this morning.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

ON RIVER ROAD,
One Mile and a half from Cox's Bridge, March 23, 1865—2 p. m.
Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your note of 10.20 a. m., and to inform you of our position, which is nearly two miles in advance of Moccasin Swamp. The enemy is moving down toward Goldsborough. The Fourteenth Corps commenced crossing at Cox's Bridge on pontoons this morning, and is now skirmishing on our front. General Hampton desires you to occupy the road you are on, and one on the other side of the railroad, which leads from Raleigh to Goldsborough, and which road is now occupied by Colonel Lipscomb, Second South Carolina Cavalry, who will be ordered to report here when relieved by your troops. He desires you to press down these roads, get as near the enemy as you can, and endeavor by scouts, &c., to gain all the information of his movements possible. Endeavor to connect, by scouts or otherwise, with Law, on the river road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 23, 1865—2.40 p. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I have moved to within one mile and a half of Moccasin Creek, and have sent out scouts [to watch] the movements of the enemy, some of which have gone to the north and northeast of Goldsborough to ascertain if the enemy are moving in those directions. Colonel Ashby is on Moccasin Creek with his command. I shall remain at this point till I get further information.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

ATKINSON'S HOUSE, *March 23, 1865—5 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of 2.40 p. m., and to inform you that his headquarters will be at this house, which is on the river road, about half a mile above Moccasin Swamp. He desires you to-morrow morning to get on the left flank and front of the enemy, who is moving toward Goldsborough, and to forward all information of the enemy's movements direct to General Johnston, at or near Smithfield, as well as to General Hampton, who will be upon this road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

March 23, 1865—5.10 p. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Captain Shannon has just sent in some twenty-five prisoners. Some belonging to the Seventeenth Corps state that they were marching from Cox's Bridge this morning toward Goldsborough, and that the understanding was they would stay in Goldsborough one month. One of the prisoners belongs to Terry's Twenty-fourth Corps. He states that General Terry is commanding his own and the Twenty-fifth Corps. He also says General Sheridan was at General Sherman's headquarters this morning, and would have his cavalry command in three days.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER.

N. B.—Prisoners say they understood that Sheridan would advance with the cavalry at once.

MARCH 23, 1865—9 a. m.

Colonel SMITH, *Commanding Brigade:*

COLONEL: Scouts from my detachment just returned report the enemy's cavalry crossing at Cox's Bridge (nine miles below here) last night and this a. m. Those that crossed last night moved toward Goldsborough. When scout left there was a column marching out from river. Had not reached this road. Not advised whether they turned up or down the river.

Very respectfully.

WM. BLACK,
Lieutenant, Commanding Detachment.

NEAR MOCCASIN RUN,

March 23, 1865—9.15 a. m.

[Major McCLELLAN:]

MAJOR: The head of my column is at Moccasin Run. I have scouting parties on the right to the Neuse, examining the roads and crossings of the river, and on the left for the purpose of communicating with Colonel Lipscomb, who I learn is on the middle or stage road, four miles to the left of this. My scouts met a small force of enemy, whom they think belonged to Schofield, near Mr. William Atkinson's, several miles this side of Cox's Bridge. Part of Sherman's force encamped last

night beyond the river (west) near Cox's Bridge. I will move on, reporting from time to time. There are two roads to the left of this, both leading from Goldsborough to Raleigh, one near railroad, the other north of it.

Respectfully,

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

I have just heard from the scouts ahead. They have captured four prisoners from the Fourteenth Corps, who say that they had orders to go to Goldsborough, and the foragers have gone in that direction. They report the Twenty-third, Twenty-fourth, and Twenty-fifth (black) Corps on this side of the Neuse, but none moving this way. The other corps seem to be crossing and going down. Can Sherman be making for Petersburg and Weldon?

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 23, 1865.

General M. L. BONHAM, *Columbia, S. C.:*

GENERAL: You have been appointed and confirmed brigadier-general. Brigade composed of Colcock's, Black's, Lipscomb's regiments. Report to General Johnston.

SAMUEL W. MELTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Return of effective strength, &c., of the infantry and artillery of army March 23, 1865.

	Effective total.	Total present.	Aggregate present.	Remarks.
Army of Tennessee, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Stewart commanding:				Effective total artillery, 106.
Lee's corps	2,340	3,211	3,583	
Cheatham's corps	2,005	2,602	2,927	
Stewart's corps	723	1,131	1,256	
Total army	5,068	6,944	7,766	
Hardee's corps, Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee commanding:				Effective total artillery, 637.
McLaws' division	3,002	3,526	4,007	
Taliaferro's division	1,695	1,802	1,909	
Total corps	4,697	5,328	5,916	
Troops Department of North Carolina, General Braxton Bragg commanding:				
Hoke's division	3,598	4,339	4,831	
Recapitulation:				
Army of Tennessee	5,068	6,944	7,766	
Hardee's corps	4,697	5,328	5,916	
Troops Department of North Carolina	3,598	4,339	4,831	
Grand total	13,363	16,611	18,513	

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Field return of Conner's brigade March 23, 1865.

Commands.	Present.			Aggregate present and absent.
	Effective total.	Total.	Aggregate.	
Field staff			8	12
2d South Carolina Regiment.....	131	184	207	499
3d South Carolina Regiment.....	191	247	265	544
7th South Carolina Regiment.....	200	222	241	555
8th South Carolina Regiment.....	52	54	61	360
15th South Carolina Regiment.....	162	174	193	580
20th South Carolina Regiment.....	216	243	270	1,096
3d South Carolina Battalion	113	129	186	296
Total	1,065	1,253	1,379	3,942

Respectfully submitted.

JNO. D. KENNEDY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

ROCK CREEK, March 23, 1865.

Field return of Harrison's brigade, commanded by Col. George P. Harrison, jr.

Command.	Commander.	Total present for duty.	Aggregate present for duty.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
5th Georgia Regiment.....	Col. C. P. Daniel	159	177	256	282
32d Georgia Regiment.....	Lieut. Col. E. H. Bacon.....	411	435	554	583
47th Georgia Regiment.....	Capt. E. W. Hazard	120	138	160	177
Grand total		690	750	970	1,042

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

MARCH 23, 1865.

Field report of General Blanchard's brigade March 23, 1865.

	Effective.	Total.	Aggregate.
General and staff.....	12	12	16
First battalion	103	106	121
Second battalion	54	91	110
Sixth battalion	126	152	167
Seventh battalion	48	52	66
Grand total.....	343	413	480

ALBERT G. BLANCHARD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Seventh Brigade.

FIELD, March 23, 1865.

Abstract from field return of Stevenson's division, Lee's corps, Army of Tennessee, Maj. Gen. Carter L. Stevenson, C. S. Army, commanding, for March 23, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.			
Major-general and staff <i>a</i>	8			8	11
Pettus' brigade.....	54	473	453	690	3,111
Palmer's brigade.....	78	502	468	762	3,637
Cumming's brigade.....	38	222	213	425	1,860
Conner's brigade.....		6	6	6	6
Total division.....	178	1,203	1,140	1,891	8,625

a Capt. A. S. Gaines, engineer officer, detached by order from army headquarters, is now on duty in Mississippi. No report received since January 28, 1865.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Field return of troops in the Department of North Carolina for March 23, 1865. (a)

Brigades.	Efficient for duty.					Non-efficient.						Total present.		
	Officers.	Non-commissioned staff.	Musicians.	Arms-bearing men.	Ambulance corps.	Sick.		In arrest.		Extraduty.		Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.
						Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.			
Kirkland's.....	74	9	29	809	29	8	56	2			35	84	967	1,051
Colquitt's.....	94	15	18	766	57	4	55	3	12	5	53	106	966	1,072
Hagood's.....	61	12	3	621	32	4	108	3		1	59	69	835	904
Clingman's.....	44	13	6	455	36	3	37		1	2	12	49	560	609
Nethercutt's.....	84	5	1	947	29		10			19	84	1,011		1,195
Total.....	357	54	57	3,598	183	19	266	8	3	8	178	392	4,339	4,831
Light artillery.....	34	96	6	657			21			2	20	36	800	836

a Junior Reserves [and] the Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth North Carolina Regiments are marching to join General Hoke, and no report is yet received from them. Neither has a report been received from the Second South Carolina Cavalry.

Respectfully submitted.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Near Smithfield, March 23, 1865.

ALTERNATE DESIGNATIONS

OF

ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS VOLUME.*

- Abell's** (Henry F.) **Artillery.** See *Milton Artillery, post, Battery B.*
- Adams' Battalion.** (Official designation not of record.) See *Major Adams.*
- Aiken's** (Hugh K.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 6th Regiment.*
- Allen's Company.** (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Allen.*
- Allen's** (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 17th Regiment.*
- Allen's** (Richard J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
- Ames'** (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 6th Regiment.*
- Ames'** (William) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment.*
- Anderson's** (Edward C., jr.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 7th Regiment.*
- Anderson's** (John H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Junior Reserves.*
- Anderson's** (Paul F.) **Cavalry.** See *Baxter Smith's Cavalry, post.*
- Anderson's** (Ruel Wooten) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
- Ashbury's** (John A.) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 7th Regiment.*
- Ashby's** (Henry M.) **Cavalry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
- Atwell's** (Seager S.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 7th Regiment.*
- Atwill's** (James W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
- Austin's** (John P.) **Cavalry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
- Avent's** (George E.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*
- Bachman's** (Amos W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 203d Regiment.*
- Bachman's** (William K.) **Artillery.** See *German Artillery, post.*
- Bacon's** (E. H., jr.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 32d Regiment.*
- Badham's** (William, jr.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery B.*
- Bailey's** (Lyman) **Artillery.** See *Ohio Troops, 15th Battery.*
- Baird's** (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 32d Regiment.*
- Barclay's** (Hugh W.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 11th Regiment.*
- Barney's** (Albert M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 142d Regiment.*
- Barnum's** (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 16th Regiment.*
- Barnwell's** (A. Smith) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
- Bartholomew's** (Walter G.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 27th Regiment.*
- Barton's** (D. R.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 14th Regiment, Militia.*
- Beach's** (Benjamin) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 11th Regiment.*
- Beaufort Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
- Bennett's** (Augustus G.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 21st Regiment.*
- Berry's** (James W.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Union, 8th Regiment.*
- Bird's** (Edward) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 5th Regiment.*
- Bishop's** (Dudson W.) **Infantry.** See *Minnesota Troops, 2d Regiment.*
- Bizzell's** (D. W.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, 3d Regiment.*
- Black's** (John L.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment.*
- Blackwell's** (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, 3d Regiment.*

* References, unless otherwise indicated, are to index following.

- Blake's** (Francis D.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
- Blakey's** (David T.) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
- Blanding's** (Ormsby) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment.*
- Blau's** (Gustav) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 54th Regiment.*
- Blount's** (John M.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery K.*
- Boag's** (Theodore G.) **Artillery.** See *Gist Guard, Artillery, post.*
- Bond's** (Emery S.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 112th Regiment.*
- Bowden's** (Doil R.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 18th Regiment.*
- Boyles' (William) Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*
- Bradley's** (William E.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 13th Regiment.*
- Brady's** (Thomas J.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 140th Regiment.*
- Brazie's** (William R.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 5th Regiment.*
- Breckinridge's** (William C. P.) **Cavalry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
- Bridgeford's** (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 102d Regiment.*
- Broadfoot's** (Charles W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Junior Reserves.*
- Bromley's** (W. L.) **Cavalry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate, 9th Battalion.*
- Brooks' (John W.) Artillery.** See *Terrell Artillery, post.*
- Brown's** (Angus P.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment.*
- Brown's** (Barton R.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 6th Regiment.*
- Brown's** (John E.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 42d Regiment.*
- Brown's** (Philip P., jr.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 157th Regiment.*
- Bruton's** (T. J.) **Artillery.** (Official designation not of record.) See *T. J. Bruton.*
- Burkhardt's** (Christian) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 29th Regiment.*
- Burr's** (J. G.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment, Home Guards.*
- Butler's** (William) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
- Butterfield's** (Charles H.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 91st Regiment.*
- Butts' (Frank A.) Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 47th Regiment.*
- Caldwell's** (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
- Callahan's** (Charles M.) **Artillery.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
- Caminade's** (H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 1st Regiment, Local Defense (Rains').*
- Camp's** (William S.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 24th Battery.*
- Campbell's** (Charles G.) **Siege Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
- Capers' (F. W.) Cadets.** (Official designation not of record.) See *F. W. Capers.*
- Carew's** (John E.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 18th Regiment, Militia.*
- Carpenter's** (John N.) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
- Carroll's** (John J.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*
- Charles' (William E.) Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery D.*
- Chatfield's** (Harvey S.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 102d Regiment.*
- Chatham Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
- Chesnut's** (John) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment.*
- Chesterfield Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
- Chestnut Light Artillery.** See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery F.*
- Chisolm's** (R. J.) **Cavalry.** See *Florida Troops, Confederate.*
- Citadel Cadets, Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
- Claassen's** (Peter J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 99th and 132d Regiments.*
- Clark's** (Jeremiah S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment, Battery G.*
- Clayton's** (William Z.) **Artillery.** See *Minnesota Troops, 1st Battery.*
- Clemons' (J. J.) Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 1st Regiment, Local Defense (Rains').*

- Clinch's** (Duncan L.) **Cavalry**. See *Georgia Troops, 4th Regiment*.
Coast Guard, Cavalry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate*.
Cobb Guards, Heavy Artillery. See *Georgia Troops*.
Cogdell's (Daniel) **Artillery**. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Batteries B, G, and H*.
Colcock's (Charles J.) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment*.
Commissary Battalion, Cavalry. See *Florida Troops, Confederate*.
Conahan's (John S.) **Infantry**. See *Ohio Troops, 50th Regiment*.
Connor's (Bryan) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 47th Regiment*.
Cook's (F. W. C.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 23d Battalion, State Guard*.
Cook's (Gustave) **Cavalry**. See *Texas Troops, 8th Regiment*.
Cooley's (Alfred) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 156th Regiment*.
Cooper's (John S.) **Infantry**. See *Ohio Troops, 107th Regiment*.
Cross's Company. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Cross*.
Cumming's (John B.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 5th Regiment, Reserves*.
Cummings' (Emory) Cavalry. See *New York Troops, 23d Battalion*.
Daniel's (Charles P.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 5th Regiment*.
Daniell's (Charles) **Artillery**. See *Georgia Troops*.
Darden's (Alfred M.) **Artillery**. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery C*.
Darling's (Moses O.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery D*.
Davis' (R. F.) Cavalry. See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 24th Battalion*.
Day's (Samuel C.) **Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery F*.
Dearing's Artillery. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Dearing*.
De Gress' (Francis) Artillery. See *Illinois Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H*.
Denny's (John P.) **Infantry**. See *Ohio Troops, 100th Regiment*.
De Pass' (W. L.) Artillery. See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery G*.
De Rosset's (Armand L.) **Infantry**. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion, Local Defense*.
Dibrell's (George G.) **Cavalry**. See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate*.
Dickson's (Henry) **Artillery**. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion, Battery E*.
Dobbs' (S. P.) Cavalry. See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment*.
Dodge's (Rowland L.) **Artillery**.* See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery B*.
Donnellau's (John W.) **Infantry**. See *Union Troops, Colored, 27th Regiment*.
Downer's (Edward) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 117th Regiment*.
Duncan's (William) **Cavalry**. See *Illinois Troops, 15th Regiment*.
Dunham's (Joseph L.) **Artillery**. See *Milton Artillery, post, Battery A*.
Earle's (A. C.) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 19th Battalion*.
Earle's (William E.) **Artillery**. See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery A*.
Echols Artillery. See *Georgia Troops*.
Elgin Artillery. See *Illinois Troops*.
Ellis' (Andrew J.) Artillery. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery A*.
Ellis' (Thomas M.) Artillery. See *J. H. Wiggins' Artillery, post*.
Erwin's (Joseph) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment*.
Evans' (Richard W.) Artillery. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery F*.
Evans' (William A.) Artillery. See *Chesterfield Artillery, ante*.
Everett's (Benjamin F.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery A*.
Fair's Cavalry. See *South Carolina Troops, 19th Battalion*.
Fairleigh's (Thomas B.) **Infantry**. See *Kentucky Troops, Union, 26th Regiment*.

* Temporarily commanding.

- Fox's** (Charles B.) **Infantry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 55th Regiment, Colored*.
- Frankle's** (Jones) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment*.
- Frederick's** (A. J.) **Militia**. (Official designation not of record.) See *A. J. Frederick*.
- French's** (William F.) **Infantry**. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment, Junior Reserves*.
- Furman Artillery**. See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery A*.
- Gage's** (Joseph S.) **Infantry**. See *Missouri Troops, Union, 29th Regiment*.
- Gaillard's** (Christopher) **Artillery**. See *Santee Artillery, post*.
- Gamble's** (Robert H.) **Artillery**. See *Leon Artillery, post*.
- Gantt's** (F. Hay) **Infantry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 11th Regiment*.
- German Artillery**. See *South Carolina Troops*.
- German Artillery Battalion**. See *South Carolina Troops*.
- Girardey's** (Camille E.) **Artillery**. See *Louisiana Guard, Artillery, post*.
- Gist Guard, Artillery**. See *South Carolina Troops*.
- Goff's** (Nathan, jr.) **Infantry**. See *Union Troops, Colored, 37th Regiment*.
- Goodwyn's** (A. D.) **Infantry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 2d, 3d, and 4th Regiments, Militia*.
- Graham's** (George W.) **Infantry**. See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment*.
- Graham's** (Harvey) **Infantry**. See *Iowa Troops, 22d Regiment*.
- Graham's** (Robert F.) **Infantry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 21st Regiment*.
- Gray's** (Patrick) **Cavalry**. See *Georgia Troops, 8th Regiment*.
- Grice's** (Lemuel A.) **Infantry**. See *J. W. Ward's Reserves, post*.
- Griffin's** (J.) **Infantry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Militia*.
- Griffith's** (Jacob W.) **Cavalry**. See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment*.
- Guerard's** (John M.) **Artillery**. See *Georgia Troops*.
- Hamilton's** (Oliver P.) **Cavalry**. See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate*.
- Hammond's** (John W.) **Infantry**. See *Indiana Troops, 65th Regiment*.
- Hamner's** (William H.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery A*.
- Hanleiter's** (Cornelius R.) **Artillery**. See *Jo. Thompson Artillery, post*.
- Hannon's** (John H.) **Cavalry**. See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 53d Regiment*.
- Harrington's** (Samuel) **Infantry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 25th Regiment*.
- Harris'** (Sampson W.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 6th Regiment*.
- Harrison's** (Robert) **Cavalry**. See *Florida Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment*.
- Hart's** (James F.) **Artillery**. See *Washington Artillery, post*.
- Hart's** (John R.) **Cavalry**. See *Georgia Troops, 6th Regiment*.
- Hartwell's** (Alfred S.) **Infantry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 55th Regiment, Colored*.
- Harvey's** (Alonzo D.) **Artillery**. See *Indiana Troops, 15th Battery*.
- Haughton's** (Nathaniel) **Infantry**. See *Ohio Troops, 25th Regiment*.
- Hazzard's** (Elliott W.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 47th Regiment*.
- Hennessy's** (John A.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 52d Regiment*.
- Heyward's** (D. B.) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment*.
- Heyward's** (George C.) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment*.
- Hibberts'** (Jefferson J.) **Infantry**. See *Ohio Troops, 32d Regiment*.
- Hickey's** (James T.) **Infantry**. See *Ohio Troops, 181st Regiment*.
- Hilliard's** (Van Rensselaer K.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 48th Regiment*.
- Hinds'** (Jerome J.) **Cavalry**. See *Alabama Troops, Union, 1st Regiment*.
- Hoge's** (George W.) **Infantry**. See *Ohio Troops, 183d Regiment*.
- Holland's** (William A.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment*.
- Holmes' Company**. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Holmes*.
- Hood's** (Arthur) **Cavalry**. See *Georgia Troops, 29th Battalion*.
- Hooks'** (Boaz F.) **Infantry**. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Senior Reserves*.
- Hooks'** (Robert W.) **Cavalry**. See *Texas Troops, 11th Regiment*.

- Houstoun's** (Patrick) **Artillery**. See *Kilcrease Artillery, post*.
Howard's (John H.) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment*.
Hufty's (Samuel) **Infantry**. See *New Jersey Troops, 9th Regiment*.
Huggins' (Almaria L.) **Artillery**. See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate*.
Hughes' (Samuel T.) **Infantry**. See *Illinois Troops, 9th Regiment*.
Huguenin's (Thomas A.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 32d Regiment*.
Hurlbut's (George R.) **Cavalry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 4th Regiment*.
Huwald's (Gustave A.) **Artillery**. See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate*.
Isley's (Edwin) **Infantry**. See *Maine Troops, 12th Regiment*.
Inge's (William M.) **Cavalry**. See *Mississippi Troops, 10th Regiment*.
Inglis Light Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment (Heavy), Battery D*.
Jaques' (Samuel R.) **Infantry**. See *Georgia Troops, 1st Battalion (Columbus)*.
Jeff. Davis Legion Cavalry. See *Mississippi Troops*.
Jewell's (William H.) **Infantry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 38th Regiment*.
Johnson's (Nathan J.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 115th Regiment*.
Johnson's (Richard) **Artillery**. See *South Carolina Troops*.
Jones' (Enoch) **Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery C*.
Jones' (John S.) **Infantry**. See *Ohio Troops, 174th Regiment*.
Jordan's (William J.) **Infantry**. See *Ohio Troops, 104th Regiment*.
Jo. Thompson Artillery. See *Georgia Troops*.
Kanapaux's (Charles E.) **Artillery**. See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery D*.
Kanapaux's (J. T.) **Artillery**. See *Lafayette Artillery, post*.
Kay's (James D.) **Infantry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Battalion, Reserves*.
Keith's (Charles A.) **Cavalry**. See *Massachusetts Troops, 4th Regiment*.
Kelly's (James I.) **Artillery**. See *Chesterfield Artillery, ante*.
Kerwin's (Michael) **Cavalry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Regiment*.
Kilcrease Artillery. See *Florida Troops, Confederate*.
King's (James R.) **Cavalry**. See *Roswell Battalion, Cavalry, post*.
King's (John L.) **Cavalry**. See *Ohio Troops, 4th Company*.
Kirk's (M. J.) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 19th Battalion*.
Kirkland's (George H.) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment*.
Kirkpatrick's (M. L.) **Cavalry**. See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 51st Regiment*.
Klein's (Daniel) **Infantry**. See *Connecticut Troops, 6th Regiment*.
Knap's (Joseph M.) **Artillery**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, Battery E*.
Kner's (Charles) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 76th Regiment*.
Kovacs' (Stephen) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 54th Regiment*.
Kuhn's (John H.) **Cavalry**. See *Henry M. Ashby's Cavalry, ante*.
Lafayette Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops*.
Laing's (John K.) **Infantry**. See *Maine Troops, 14th Regiment*.
Lee's (Edgar) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 101st Regiment*.
Lee's (Edgar J.) **Artillery**. See *Montgomery True Blues, Artillery, post*.
Lee's (Philip) **Infantry**. See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment*.
Lee's (Richard H.) **Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 16th Battery*.
Lee's (William A.) **Infantry**. See *Connecticut Troops, 9th Regiment*.
Le Gardeur's (G., jr.) **Artillery**. See *Orleans Guard, Artillery, post, Battery A*.
Lehmann's (Theodore F.) **Infantry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 103d Regiment*.
Leon Artillery. See *Florida Troops, Confederate*.
Lewis' (Charles) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 176th Regiment*.
Lewis' (James) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 144th Regiment*.
Lewis' (James H.) **Cavalry**. See *James T. Wheeler's Cavalry, post*.
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